

FREE

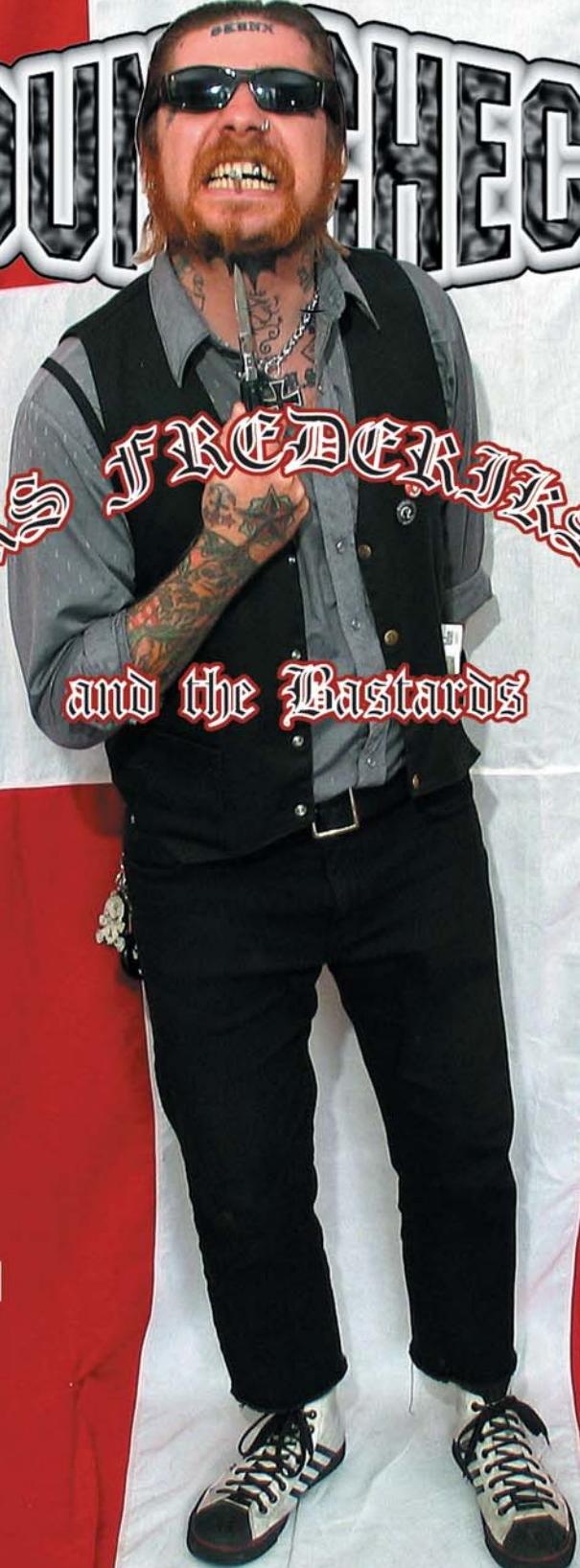
SOUNDCHECKMAG.NET

JULY / AUG '04

SOUNDCHECK

PIEBALD FREDDIE FISCHER
and the Bastards

Piebald
Prong
i





LARS FREDERIKSEN AND THE BASTARDS - VIKING



Shatty P.R.



Big Jay



L.F.



Bastard



Craig-Leg

Lars' 2nd Solo Record
out July 12th
Produced by

- Tim Armstrong -



HELLCAT RECORDS

ROCK AGAINST BUSH VOL 2



IN STORES
AUGUST 10th!

28 TRACKS FEATURING 20 RARE AND UNRELEASED SONGS!

**AUTOPilot OFF • BAD RELIGION • BOUNCING SOULS
DILLINGER FOUR • DONOTS • DROPKICK MURPHYS
THE DWARVES • FLOGGING MOLLY • FOO FIGHTERS
GREEN DAY • HOT WATER MUSIC
THE (INTERNATIONAL) NOISE CONSPIRACY
JAWBREAKER • LAGWAGON THE LAWRENCE ARMS
MAD CADDIES NO DOUBT • NO USE FOR A NAME
ONLY CRIME • OPERATION IVY RANCID • SICK OF IT ALL
SLEATER KINNEY • SUGARCULT • THOUGHT RIOT
THE UNSEEN • USELESS ID • YELLOWCARD**

CD CD-R DVD DVD+R VIDEO PRINTING PACKAGING GRAPHIC DESIGN TRANSFERS

ACCURATE BIT COPY

The answer to all your media questions

Short Run Special

Full Color CD-R's

\$2.00 ea. (min. of 25)
direct to disc thermal print
(not a label or ink jet)

Retail Ready Special

1,000 CD's **\$1,200**

4 page 4/1 insert, 4/0 tray card
barcode, jewel case, overwrapped



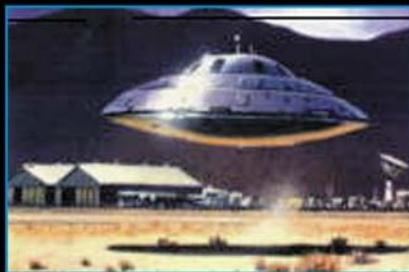
Are you a Recording Studio in need of a comp disc?

Ask about our studio discounts

Accurate Bit Copy 800.696.0500 www.accubit.com

SAUCER SOUND

P.O. BOX 861
NORTON, MA 02766
(508) 285-SONG
Website: www.saucersound.com



- * STATE-OF-THE-ART 24-TRACK DIGITAL RECORDING
- * COMPLETE CUSTOM-DESIGNED MIDI WORKSTATION
(INCLUDING KEYBOARD CONTROLLER)
- * LOTS OF NEW AND VINTAGE SYNTHESIZERS, SAMPLERS
AND DRUM MACHINES.
- * PRO TOOLS DIGITAL EDITING
- * A PROFESSIONAL, COMFORTABLE RECORDING ENVIRONMENT
- * AUDIO RECORDING COURSES & CAREER TRAINING AVAILABLE

JULY Is...



Some Quantities Limited

Killer Guitars and Guitar Gear On Sale During July!

Ovation Acoustic/Electric Special Purchase!



List Price
\$619.50

**OVER
51%
Off List!**

60928

Ibanez SR400 Bass Guitar 2003 Model Closeout!



List Price \$599.99

- Maple body
- 3-Piece Maple neck with Rosewood fingerboard
- Ibanez DXP and DXJ pickups
- Chrome hardware
- Available in Black or Vintage Blue finish

Only 72 Available!

Trade Up - Trade In!

Daddy's wants your old gear! Bring in anything you've got... from guitars to mics... we want it ALL!



20 Stores Throughout New England & NY!

Sale Runs 7/3 thru 7/31

20 CONVENIENT LOCATIONS!

Portland, ME	Burlington, MA	Vernon, CT
Portsmouth, NH	Dedham, MA	W. Hartford, CT
Manchester, NH	Boston, MA	Orange, CT
Nashua, NH	No. Dartmouth, MA	Stamford, CT
Salem, NH	Springfield, MA	Albany, NY
Warwick, RI	Shrewsbury, MA	Syracuse, NY
Peabody, MA		Rochester, NY

OPPORTUNITY ROCKS!

DADDY'S NEEDS MANAGERS
SALESPeople & ELECTRONICS TECHS

FAX RESUME OR LETTER TO DEPT. HR-BS
603-623-7995 OR APPLY AT WWW.DADDYS.COM

Occasionally a mistake slips through the cracks! We reserve the right to correct erroneous information whenever it's discovered.

SOUNDCHECK

ISSUE 85 JULY/AUGUST 2004

PUBLISHER:

William F. Restuccia, Jr.

bill@soundcheckmag.net

EXECUTIVE EDITOR:

Teresa Francis

teri@soundcheckmag.net

MANAGING EDITORS:

Debbie Catalano

debbie@soundcheckmag.net

Jesse Mayer

jesse@soundcheckmag.net

METAL EDITOR:

Stephanie Marino

stephanie@soundcheckmag.net

SALES & MARKETING:

Jesse Mayer

jesse@soundcheckmag.net

Stephanie Marino

stephanie@soundcheckmag.net

Debbie Catalano

debbie@soundcheckmag.net

SENIOR WRITERS

L.A. Joe, Matt Robinson, Mike Baldino

CONTRIBUTING STAFF & WRITERS:

Karl Russo, Rich Papa, Alan Andrade, Jeannie Deva, "Samantha", Stephanie Marino, Deek McDeekula, Joel Simches, Metal Wench, Matt O'Dette, Andrea McPhee, Johnny Gaffney, Kevin Wierzbicki, Smash, Al Ravage, Jessi Morgan, Shawn Macomber, Tony Savarino, Bill Copeland, Ari Weinkle, Cherry Valance, Space

STAFF PHOTOGRAPHERS:

Jeff Behar

jeff@soundcheckmag.net

John E. Davis

john@jedavispphoto.com

ART DIRECTOR & WEBMASTER:

William F. Restuccia, Jr.

www.soundcheckmag.net

Cover Photo: Lars Frederiksen - By AP

Cover Artwork by: B_Stu

SEND ALL OF YOUR INFORMATION TO:

info@soundcheckmag.net

SOUNDCHECK MAGAZINE

389 Main Street, Suite 301, Malden, MA 02148
Tel: (781) 388-7749 Fax: (781) 388-1817

© 2004 SOUNDCHECK MAGAZINE - Reserves the right to edit or delete any or all material submitted to this publication. No material may be reproduced without written consent of SoundCheck. Any material submitted to this publication will not be returned unless requested and provided with SASE.

SUBSCRIPTIONS! - SoundCheck Magazine is free in select locations or by subscription. Rates are \$25.00 for one year inside U.S. You can contact us at : (781) 388-7749 or info@soundcheckmag.net

SCM_EDITORIAL

I'm so sick and tired of today's radio stations and programmers. How many times must I hear Jet or the White Stripes? Don't get me wrong, I love the bands and their songs, but the ear worms are rotting my brain. It's like they are the only bands on the earth. With all the kazillions of songs, new and old, the radio formats are getting confusing and, above all, annoying. What is so hard about mixing it up? The same 10 songs that are played over and over makes me change the station so often I'm going to crash my car on purpose into some "aging hippie liberal douche's" car with bumper stickers that tells me how to live.

It's getting to the point that satellite radio is looking real good, even if I have to pay tribute to the corporate scoundrels. Is this a conspiracy of the satellite radio industry machine to get us to switch over? Are they slipping tribute to program directors? Are they forcing talk jocks to clean up their acts? They must be paying off the criminal legislators in the State Houses across the country to get their way? So much of life is fixed, I'm beginning to wonder what is real or what is Memorex.

I know I'm ranting about something that I can't fix, but I need to vent. I'm forced to turn to talk radio where all I hear is war, war, war, Republicans this, Democrats that. I figure they all should be put in jail for fraud anyway - that way we might get some radio format changes and save my sanity.

W.F.R.
- Publisher

DOES YOUR BAND NEED A CD?

GET 1000 RETAIL READY
CDs FOR \$1000

from customer supplied CD-R and final film

ALSO OFFERING
SHORT RUN
CD-R DUPLICATION!!!

RUSH ORDER CD SERVICE AVAILABLE
CDs DONE IN 5 BUSINESS DAYS!!!!!!

SERVING THE BOSTON
MUSIC COMMUNITY FOR
OVER 13 YEARS

WONDERDRUG RECORDS

1312 Boylston Street, Boston, MA 02215
(P) 617-262-9374 (F) 617-262-9151
www.wonderdrugrecords.com

HAPPY CLIENTS INCLUDE:

Sam Black Church, Tree, Babaloo, Bleu, Cracktorch, Give, Diecast, Toxic Narcotic, Kicked In
The Head, Shadows Fall, Scissorfight, Unearth, Lovewhip, All Parallels, No December,
Crash and Burn, Powerman 5000, The Gentlemen, Curve of The Earth Records,
Lunch Records, Dark Symphonies, Lifeless Records, and more...

We're best known
for the company we keep!

recent projects...

recording / mixing:

hypnotic • the crush • waver • best friend josh
august spies • john haydon • photon torpedos
the kings of nuthin • the falsies • steve stanley
the dimestore haloes • masashi harada trio

mastering:

rose of sharon • the lot 6 • drexel • winterboy
sunshine boy • espo records • mike drohen

labels:

emanem • pelado • raucous • espo • sachimay
sublingual • twisted village • gravity arts

Visit www.7awest.com

Cool hang. Great ears. No Bullshit.

recording • mixing • mastering

akg
neve
beyer
fender
lexicon
neumann
adat xt20
telefunken
purple audio
tc electronic
mackie digital
empirical labs
yada yada yada

**7A West
STUDIO**

Charlestown, MA
617-755-3575
781-356-7536
mike@7awest.com

LARS FREDDY LIESER
PAGE 12
and the Bastards

PAGE 32

i

PAGE 22

Piebald

PAGE 34

**P
R
O
N
G**

THE PROPAGANDA ~ ~ ~ ~ ~	6
INDIE RELEASES ~ ~ ~ ~ ~	16
FROM THE FOUNDRY ~ ~ ~ ~ ~	19
KNOW YOUR INDUSTRY ~ ~ ~ ~ ~	26
RACK SPACE ~ ~ ~ ~ ~	28
ACE OF BASS ~ ~ ~ ~ ~	29
SPOTLIGHTING THE SINGER ~ ~ ~ ~ ~	30
DOES YOUR MOTHER KNOW YOU DO THIS? ~ ~ ~ ~ ~	31
THE AMPLIFIER ~ ~ ~ ~ ~	38
SOUNDBOARD (MUSICIANS CLASSIFIED - FREE LISTING) ~ ~ ~ ~ ~	45
CLASSIFIED ~ ~ ~ ~ ~	46

Sony/MCI JH-24
Neotek Series II
PT HD3 w/ProControl
Neve
API
Universal Audio
Millennia
Manley
Neumann
Lexicon
More...

Mixed Emotions Music

Where Quality Matters Most



www.MixedEmotionsMusic.com

978-774-7413

Proven Experience on the Fine Line Between Technology & Art

www.TAPECOMPLEX.com



617.437.9449 • fax 617.437.9227
4 haviland street, boston, ma 02115
www.tapecomplex.com

- 100** CDRs full color package
w/ on-cd print... **\$329**
- 300** CDRs full color package
w/ on-cd print... **\$629**
- 500** CDs full color package
w/ 3 color on-cd print... **\$970**
- 1000** CDs full color package
w/ 3 color on-cd print... **\$1149**

all packages include 2 panel full color insert (4/4)
& full color tray card (4/0) in Jewel box,
shrinkwrapped & ready to hit the shelves.

From your graphic files.
OFFER ENDS Aug 31, 2003.
Present this coupon for special price.

MASTERING SERVICES AVAILABLE
...CALL FOR RATES...

SPECIALIZED
mastering



508.872.9478



Let Specialized Mastering's experienced ears, tuned room, and high end gear, bring out the best sound for your recordings. Truly professional CD mastering, accessible at indie rates.

-that's Specialized Mastering

Recent Clients:

Favorite Atomic Hero · Angry Hill · Indianola Records · Midnight
Michael Troy · Back Bay Guitar Trio · Monster Mike Welch
Orange Island · Jess Klein · Blood for Blood · Flashcubes
Jimmy Eat World · Jebediah · Otis Spann

Dana J. White

47 Mellen Street Framingham, MA 01702 ph: 508.872.9478

www.specializedmastering.com email: dana@specializedmastering.com



THE PROPAGANDA

Berklee College of Music for the first time will actively partner with the **NEMO Music Festival and Conference** to bring to the event some of the innovative

educators who make the college a destination for worldwide music industry career preparation. Berklee will provide faculty and Berklee Press authors for panels, Music Business/Management students for panel assistance, and consultation for panel topics that reflect Berklee's contemporary music curriculum. The NEMO Music Festival and Conference takes place October, 1 and 2 with panels and workshops at the Hyatt Regency in Boston and showcases at clubs throughout Boston and Cambridge. For more information go to www.nemoboston.com...

LOCK & KEY



Scorpisces Productions and New Year's Rockport

Eve present **Punk-B-Q 2004**, an annual event showcasing a dozen or so regional underground bands performing at Evan's Field in Rockport, MA on August 7. The event begins at 12 noon with bands starting at 12:30. This year's performers include: **Boxingwater, Missionshifter, These Lies, Mark Lind, Lock & Key, BioPop, This Town is an Anchor, The Call Up, Espontaneo, The Cutt-Ups, Wiley Riley, The Skexies, and Quinn.** Show is all ages. Visit www.scorpisces.com for more details...

Sean Burgess, formerly of local rockers **The Deliriants**, has moved to LA and is now the drummer for **Mere Mortals** whose debut 4-song CD EP is now available on their website. www.meremortalsmusic.com. They also made their debut on LA radio. Indie 103.1 FM who played their song "Cracked" and has added it to their playlist. You can request them at: <http://indie1031.fm/contact.html>...

Relapse Records will release a companion CD compilation to coincide with the release of metal journalist **Albert Mudrian**'s book *Choosing Death: The Improbable History of Death Metal & Grindcore* this fall. Titled *Choosing Death: The Original Soundtrack*, the 20-track CD will aurally illustrate Mudrian's tome with tracks from the biggest and most influential artists of the death metal and grindcore genres, including several tracks exclusive to the compilation. Among the highlights slated to appear on the *Choosing Death* CD are never-before-heard songs from **Nihilist** (pre-Entombed), **Suffocation**, and **Pig Destroyer**, as well as classic tracks from **Morbid Angel, Carcass, Cannibal Corpse**, and many more. *Choosing Death: The Original Soundtrack* is slated for a September 28th, 2004 release date via Relapse. www.relapse.com www.choosingdeath.com...

Boston band **Those Who Wait** released their long-awaited debut self-titled album on June 1st. For more album info, tour dates and merch go to: www.thosewhowait.net...

Yoke Shire has just completed an acoustic-oriented 3-song collection of singles entitled *Solar Solstice* that is available through Amazon.com. As part for the promotional tour for this CD, Yoke Shire will be kicking off the 10th Annual SolarFest at Green Mountain College in Vermont on Saturday July 10 with an unplugged set of their original acoustic material. Yoke Shire *Unplugged* will also be performing free shows at the Brewery Exchange Courtyard (Lowell, MA) on July 16th and 30th as well as at The Atlantic Grille (Hampton Beach, NH) on Saturday, July 24. For more information on Yoke Shire's new CD, these and other shows, visit www.yokeshire.com...

In support of their upcoming sophomore release *Angels with Dirty Faces*, **Manda and Marbles** will set out on a summer tour. The new CD will be released later this summer. To hear a new track sampler: contact SiouxZ@Magnumpr.net or Kip@Magnumpr.net...

Canadian rockers and cult favorites **Sloan** were just announced as the second band on **Jet's** upcoming tour. Sloan was awarded the prized slot after Jet, who are big fans of the band, personally asked the Sloan boys to join them on the road. Hot on the heels of the new release of *Action Pact* on Koch Records Sloan will be appearing on July 12 in Providence, RI at Lupo's at the Strand. Visit www.kochrecords.com for more details...

After building a strong name and following under the name **4:20**, the band added a new member, wrote new songs, and reflected their sound and changes with the new name **Tragic Youth**. The band recently won The Rolling Rock Town Fair/WAAF competition in Boston. As a result, they played at The Town Fair in June at Suffolk Downs opening for Sevendust. For more information about Tragic Youth, please visit www.tragicyouth.com...

Big news in the **Strike First Records** camp, they have just signed **Jesus Wept**. Jesus Wept is the new band formed by all of the members of **xDisciplex AD**. They will be releasing a 7-song EP on July 27 titled *Sick City*. For more info go to: www.strikefirstrecords.com...

Punk/pop heroes **Less Than Jake** return to the road this summer with **Linkin Park's Projekt Revolution** tour in support of their new Sire/Warner Bros. Records album *B Is For B-Sides*, slated for July 20, 2004. The band will open the main stage each day of the tour that also features **Korn**, **The Used**, **Snoop Dogg** and more. Less Than Jake will also be performing at the special 10th anniversary Warped Tour on August 20, 2004 in Foxboro, MA. Visit www.lessthanjake.com for more info....

Local blues guitar veteran **Paul Speidel** and his band celebrate 10 years of dues-paying on the Boston blues scene with the release of their debut CD, *The Paul Speidel Band*. It's a raw blend of hard-rockin' blues, funky beats with cool jazz lines all mixed together. This CD has been very well-received and is available now at PaulSpeidel-Band.com...

While October 7th-11th may seem a while away, the voyage to discovering hot new bands for **The Rock Boat IV** presented by Icehouse is here and now. In addition to searching for up-and-coming talent, The Rock Boat is also proud to announce this year's sponsors and ways to get on the waiting list for the already sold-out concert cruise from Miami to the Grand Cayman Islands. Registered as the world's largest floating festival at sea by the Guinness Book of World Records, The Rock Boat encourages bands everywhere to enter for what may be their only chance at climbing aboard The Rock Boat now that tickets have officially been sold out. Located in Suwanee, Georgia, as well as Greenville, Hilton Head, Charleston and Charlotte, South Carolina, Wild Wing Cafe will act as a venue for up-and-coming bands to try out for their last chance to secure a spot on this year's Rock Boat IV. www.therockboat.com...

ASCAP (The American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers) has presented **Three Day Threshold** with a "National Performance Recognition Award" as part of their ASCAPLUS program. ASCAPLUS is a unique awards program that provides both cash and recognition to writers in the early stages of their careers as well as to established writers whose main activity is outside of broadcast media. Go to www.threedaythreshold.com for more details...

A quick musical update: **Ryan Dupont** and **Brian Dixey** recently started a new band called **Guy Smiley** which had its first gig at The Paradise Lounge in Boston, MA last month. Unfortunately they found out that there is already an established band in the Boston area called Guy Smiley. So, a new name has been decided: **The Ryan Dupont Band**. Since their first gig in Boston, they've finished recording a demo in Middleton, MA at **Mixed Emotions Music** and plan to book some more gigs for this coming summer. Hear samples from their new recording: www.briandixey.com/newmusic.html. Stay tuned for new gigs, a new band website and much more...

The Atlantis Music Conference is a yearly conference held in Atlanta, Georgia where



**DARK
HORSE
MUSIC**

Services

* Booking	* Photo Shoots
* Band Promotion	* DVD Production
* Advertising	* Artwork Design
* Promo Kits	* Web Design

Need help booking a gig at that one venue you just can't seem to get into? Need someone to help you get started with a website and basic artwork for your band? We provide all the necessary services to get new bands the exposure they need, and the bookings they want.

(978) 388-8780
<http://www.darkhorsemusic.com>

THE PROPAGANDA

industry executives and musicians can cross paths and intermingle through hosted parties, panel discussions, nightly music showcases and informal networking opportunities. The 2004 conference will be held at the downtown Renaissance Hotel in Atlanta, Georgia from Wednesday, July 21st through Saturday, July 24th. [www.atlantismusic.com/...](http://www.atlantismusic.com/)



OK Panic has put the finishing touches on their new CD titled *Deafinition*, officially released July 10th on **Retrospect Records**. Retrospect Records is proud to release this ten-song CD to listeners of hard rock across the globe. The CD may be purchased on or after July 10th from the Retrospect Records website at www.retrospectrecords.com/. The website currently features samples of the CD available for download. Visit www.okpanic.net for more on the band...

On September 20th at High Noon on the Boston Common the **15TH Annual MASSCANN/NORML Boston Freedom Rally** will take place. The Rally will feature: **Bonescrew**, 2004 WBCN Rumble winner **Jake Brennan and the Confidence Men**, **Audible Mainframe**, **Entrain**, **Colony Underground**, **the Foundation**, and lots more TBA [http://masscann.org/...](http://masscann.org/)

Chicago producer **Dick Shurman**, who guided Winter's studio efforts during the most prolific period of his career, returns for *I'm a Bluesman*, along with **Tom Hambridge** (Susan Tedeschi). Here they've created an air guitarist's dream album. To read the Virgin Records Press release go to: www.virgin-records.com...

Fearless Records is proud to announce the release of **Yesterdays Rising**'s new EP *When We Speak, We Breath*. **Yesterdays Rising**'s first release on Fearless Records will hit stores on July 13th, 2004. Additionally, **Yesterdays Rising** has posted two new songs from their debut EP on their *Pure Volume* page. www.purevolume.com/yesterdaysrising...

Lamb of God are proud to announce *Ashes Of The Wake*, the follow-up album to the band's critically acclaimed release *As The Palaces Burn*. The new album, produced by **Machine** (Clutch, King Crimson, Pitchshifter), and featuring special appearances from **Chris Poland** (Megadeth) and **Alex Skolnick** (Testament) is set to hit stores this fall. Lamb of God along with **Hatebreed** and **Slipknot**, are set as the only non-rotating bands on the **Ozzfest** 2004 2nd stage...

The **WBOS Free Summer Concerts** at Copley Square Park run Thursdays from July 8th to August 14th. (There will be no show on July 29th due to the DNC.) Shows are free and begin at 5:30 pm in front of historic Trinity Church in Copley Square. Attendees of the WBOS Free Summer Concerts at Copley Square Park are invited to bring blankets, lawn chairs, and plenty of sunscreen. Copley Square Park is accessible by public transportation. For more information on the WBOS Summer Concerts at Copley and all the WBOS-sponsored concerts this summer, visit www.wbos.com...

Pro Tools HD3 System

AdamsProAudioRentals.com

Rent it!

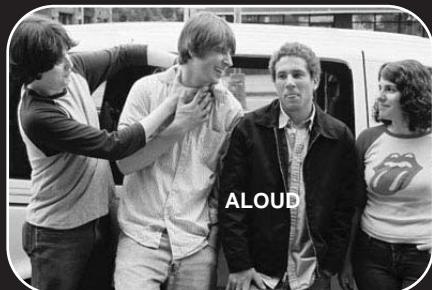
6 1 7 • 7 7 3 • 8 3 8 5

Boston native, **Sarah Woolf**, punk rocker trapped inside a folksinger's body, is having her CD release party At The Zeitgeist Gallery, Cambridge, MA July 25, 7-9 p.m. special guests **Holly Figueroa** and **Danielle Miraglia**. [www.wickedqueeahrecords.com...](http://www.wickedqueeahrecords.com)

mewithoutYou wrap up work on their sophomore release, tentatively titled, *Catch For Us the Foxes*, and are scheduled to release this September 21st. In support of the upcoming release mewithoutYou will tour with bands like **Noise Ratchet**, **The Working Title**, and this fall with **Blindside**. [www.mewithoutyou.com...](http://www.mewithoutyou.com)

Gary Cherone recently recorded vocal harmonies on "A Humarock Song," released locally by his twin brother, **Greg**. Indeed a family affair, their kid brother, **Markus**, played acoustic guitar. The ballad is about a summertime place special to the Cherone boys and so many others who ever vacationed there. The CD/Single is available for \$3.99 at Humming Rock Gifts, located at 11 Marshfield Avenue in Humarock, MA. All profits will be donated to the Humarock Beach Improvement Association....

If you haven't heard already, **The Skybar**, located at 518 Somerville Ave. in Somerville, has made some major renovations to the club. There is a new stage, new layout, new booking agent, and more. Check it out - there are an array of styles of music at the club, including singer/songwriter nights on Tuesdays, open mics on Wednesday nights, and as always, rock Thursday through Sunday nights! Visit www.skybar.us for more info....



Boston band **Aloud** recently released their six-song record *The Sooner It Comes*. The EP was recorded with **Emaginary Records** producer **Ian Hughes**. Aloud will be playing a show at the Middle East Upstairs on July 17, with **Dust Buffalo**, **Fivehead**, and **The Beatings**. Go to www.allthingsaloud.com for more info...

**we work
you play**

**mastering
design
duplication
dvd editing
online sales
web sites
promotion
publicity**

Free with any replication package

- 1/2 hour graphics
- cdfreedom.com
- e-commerce site
- accept all major cards
- soundscan reporting
- song samples & more

NIMBIT

- instant artist website
- hosting w/e-mail list server
- easy live editing
- auto gig list & more

888-782-2378
artistdevelopment.com
work with the best

cida
artist development associates inc.

DEEK (WBCH) & WWW.PUREROCKFURY.COM PRESENT:

SATURDAY - JULY 31

SHOOTZ GROOVE

reunion show!

celebrating the
10 year anniversary
of the release of
J.I.V.E.



with Guests:
second audio program,
woodland creatures,
fear nuttin' band,
& J-base!

THE MIDDLE EAST DOWNSTAIRS
472 MASS AVE. CAMBRIDGE, MA
CENTRAL SQ. REDLINE - 8:30PM - \$12 - 18+
ADVANCE TICKETS THROUGH MIDDLESTCLUB.COM & TICKETMASTER

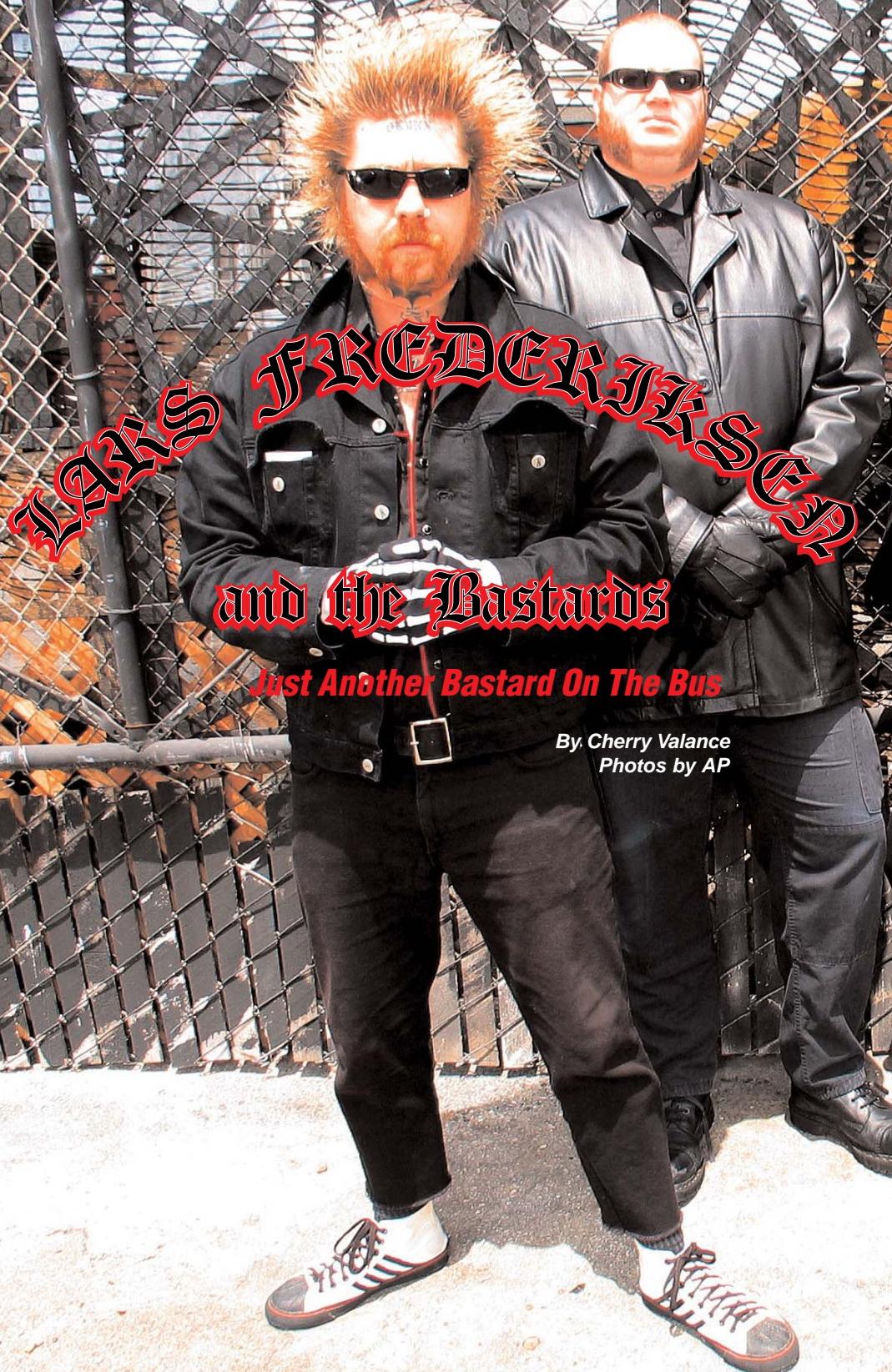
China Delight Corp's

the **skybar**

Come check out the NEW **skybar**.

NEW atmosphere, NEW expanded 20'x 10' stage!!
Under NEW management & a NEW booking agent

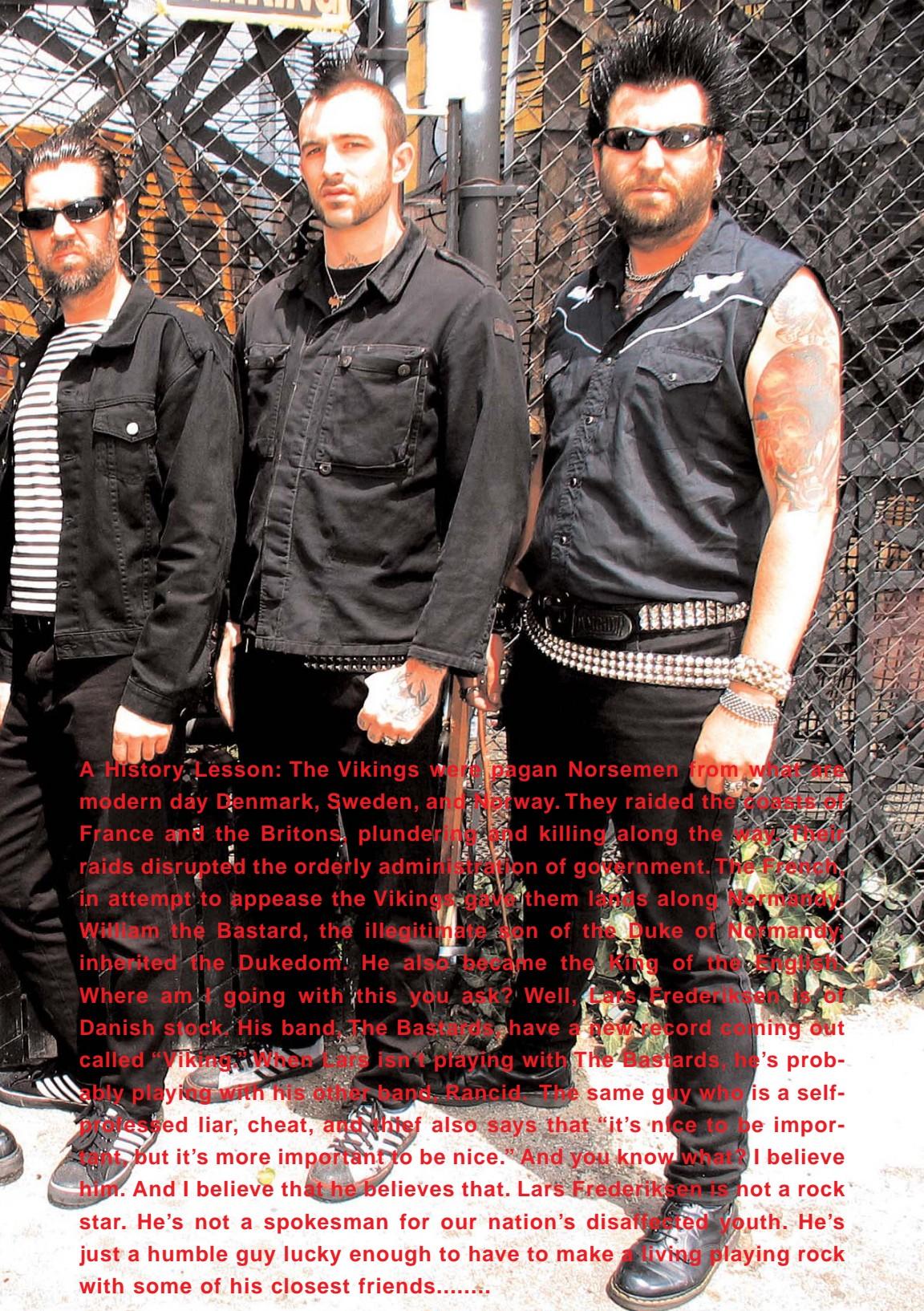
For Bookings, please contact Joe at
SKYBARBOOKING@aol.com



FREDDY KRIESEL
and the Bastards

Just Another Bastard On The Bus

By Cherry Valance
Photos by AP



A History Lesson: The Vikings were pagan Norsemen from what are modern day Denmark, Sweden, and Norway. They raided the coasts of France and the Britons, plundering and killing along the way. Their raids disrupted the orderly administration of government. The French, in attempt to appease the Vikings gave them lands along Normandy. William the Bastard, the illegitimate son of the Duke of Normandy, inherited the Dukedom. He also became the King of the English. Where am I going with this you ask? Well, Lars Frederiksen is of Danish stock. His band, The Bastards, have a new record coming out called "Viking." When Lars isn't playing with The Bastards, he's probably playing with his other band, Rancid. The same guy who is a self-professed liar, cheat, and thief also says that "it's nice to be important, but it's more important to be nice." And you know what? I believe him. And I believe that he believes that. Lars Frederiksen is not a rock star. He's not a spokesman for our nation's disaffected youth. He's just a humble guy lucky enough to have to make a living playing rock with some of his closest friends.....

"We've never been like those guys that hang out they're the ones who are really going to give you

SoundCheck Magazine: I hear that you have SKUNX tattooed on your hairline....

Lars Frederiksen: Yep.

SCM: Is that new?

LF: Yeah, I got that done in Japan. No one was really looking at me for a couple weeks, and then I got it done, and I came home, and everyone was looking at me. I was like, "Oh yeah." Nobody looks at anybody in Japan.... I've always wanted to do my forehead, I'm just thankful I didn't get it done when I was younger, 'cause I would've gotten something really crazy like, "FUCK REAGAN."

SCM: Since you brought up Reagan, and he and Thatcher were sort of the patron saints of punk rock.....

LF: Yes, they were, Republicans are really good for punk, there's so much to be pissed about...

SCM: What are your thoughts on his passing?

LF: Good. I'm glad. No, I don't really care. I think he was like most presidents, a liar, a cheat, and a thief, which is kind of like me, but I don't do it to other people.

SCM: So tell me a bit about The Bastards... who are they?

LF: The Bastards, Gordy, plays in a band called The Forgotten, who I've known for years, he's a skunk, there's only a few skunx left in Campbell and he's kind of leading the charge, Bear, and we've got Big Jay, who plays in a band called The Roughnecks, and he's also my guitar tech with Rancid. We've got Scott Ables we call him Scotty PR now, he plays in a band called Hepcat.....

SCM: Will the Unknown Bastard ever reveal himself?

LF: The Unknown Bastard is and has always been Gordy. Everyone said, "It's Matt" and everybody said, "It's Tim!" and then people thought it was Brett Reed, and Brett Reed is, like, skinnier than a phone cord, Gordy is you know, a pretty big guy he's about 6'2", muscle-bound, you know, real handsome too...He's right here in the room, so I've got to talk about him....He's flexing his muscles.... [voices in the background, laughter] He just said, is that a black eye you have, oh no, it's just one of my premonitions...I'd better shut up..

SCM: The last Bastards record was written, recorded, and mixed in an extremely short period of time [five days] how long did this one take?

LF: It was a while. I mean me and Tim started writing these song on The Warped Tour. The first song on the record is called "Bastards," which is kind of like the theme song, and that was written on Warped Tour. And then, uh, "Switchblade" "My Life," and what else was around then, "Mainline" and "Murder" those were all kind of written beforehand, and then "Little Rude Girl" is an old Rancid song, one that was like a throw-away; we wrote that one in like '93, that's on the record. And then "Maggots" was a Rancid live song, and we just recorded it. I loved the song so much, but we had a lot of material, and me and Tim always wanted it to see the light of day. We couldn't put 27 songs on that record. It wouldn't fit time-wise you know?

SCM: The last record was a great summer record, you know, driving around in the sun with it turned up....

LF: Well thank you. What would I describe this one as? Since it's called "Viking," I'd probably call it the winter record.

SCM: Tell me what The Real Kids mean to you?

LF: The Real Kids? Big influence. Great songwriting, I still do "The Boob"

SCM: Felice is a great songwriter...

LF: John is a great human being, and a great man, and I've actually had him around my house at Christmastime a couple years back.

SCM: I hear a lot of like, '50s rock-a-billy in your guitar playing...

LF: You do?

SCM: At times, yeah...

LF: I love all that stuff, you know, I love Elvis, I love Johnny Cash, Carl Perkins, Buddy Holly, and, uh, Gene Vincent. I like all those kind of guitar players. You know, just those types of songwriting. Being a guitar lead, the first guitar player I ever heard that I thought was anything, I was four years old, and I heard Ace Freely. So I think there's a lot of that kind in my playing as well, 'cause I always thought he was great. He really knew how to play him and Angus Young. Because, you know, my musical, like, exposure was like KISS, AC/DC, Cheap Trick, then The Ramones.

backstage who don't get out there with the kids, the energy to get up there and do what you do."

SCM: We've got my boyfriend's son, who is four, listening to Mike Ness. "Cheating at Solitaire" is his favorite album right now..

LF: Really? Well, Ness is a big influence me, too. I love his solo records, the storylines.... He knows how to make a story out of the leads, you know what I mean? And I always dug that kind of stuff, that's kind of just the way I approach it, I don't really try to put big album notes or something right there, but ... I love, like, Necromantix , and Meteors, and Tiger Army, and stuff like that so, it's like, I like that kind of style of playing... Fast Eddie from Motorhead. Motorhead is like my favorite band, but I think that of anybody I completely copy you listen to a Motorhead record, and listen to my lead, you'll hear a lot of that,'cause that's my favorite band, and Fast Eddie is one of the greatest guitar players to have ever walked the earth, and Lemmy is one of the best songwriters in the world, as is Tim Armstrong, which, you know, I'm very fortunate to have as a songwriting partner both in the Rancid and in The Bastards. He writes all the songs for The Bastards, produced the record, the new record, and took all the photos for the artwork, and it comes out on his label. You know what I mean, so it's like very family-oriented.

SCM: You keep a pretty intense tour schedule, between Rancid and The Bastards— it seems like you get off the road with one, and just turn around and go back out with the other one.... Is that what it's about for you, getting out there and playing live, connecting with the audience?

LF: I love touring I mean, I'm loving playing the new songs with the band, you know, it's two different experiences, to be on the road with Rancid and The Bastards. It's two cool things you, know? Two totally different things. Not one better than the other. Right now we're in a van, I'm traveling in the van....

SCM: Do you have a preference as far as the stadium thing or the club thing?

LF: I love the clubs, The clubs are the best way to get to know us better...

SCM: When I saw Rancid in Portland, OR, at the Crystal Ballroom, you hung out with the kids in front of the club for a good hour or so...

LF: Yeah, that's important you know, I'm like them, you know, that I'm not any different than whoever comes to the shows. I'm still, right now, I love being.... All of us, we've never been like those guys that hang out backstage who don't get out there with the kids, they're the ones who are really going to give you the energy to get up there and do what you do....

SCM: If you could give the kids one thing through your music, what would you hope it to be?

LF: Oh, ummm.... to interpret it anyway they want to interpret, think for themselves, you know? I just think that stuff's really important in life, kind of do what you want to do, and don't listen to anyone's bullshit, do your own thing, you know?

SCM: What's the last book you read?

LF: White Line Fever, by Lemmy Kilmister.

SCM: That was one of the last books read in our household.

LF: Really? No I loved it...I loved it so much that I grew sideburns, a crank 'stache, I have a cowboy T-shirt on, a cowboy belt buckle, my hair's greased back 'cause I want to look like him so bad.... just got to get the mole.

SCM: That and Motley Crue's "The Dirt" were the last two books we read.....

LF: People have told me to read that, but I don't really give a fuck about Motley Crue. I never liked them, I do owe them a dept of gratitude, because if I didn't hate them so much, I wouldn't have turned out the way I am....

SCM: You've been through a lot in the last couple of years, with the losses of your brother and Joe [Strummer], and injuring your back - what's been your saving grace through all of it?

LF: My band. Those guys really stood by me.

SCM: What's your definition of "Friendship"?

LF: Loyalty, respect, love, honesty, and camaraderie, family. You can't just have one word to describe a friendship, you know there's a lot of feelings that go on.....

SCM: Which has more influence in your daily life, Hope or Faith?

LF: Faith. Faith obviously. You can't have hope without faith, right? ☺

"Viking" will be released July 13th. Visit www.lfatb.com/home.html for more on the band.

INDIE RELEASES

U.S ROUGHNECKS

Twenty Bucks and 2 Black Eyes
(Hellcat Records)
epitaph.com

Booze, fighting, and the struggles of the working man are on the U.S. Roughnecks' minds on the band's debut. The songs are loud, fast, and angry and lead vocalist Mike Hennessey has a way of delivering his to-the-point lyrics in rousing howls. The band's sound is a mix of old school Oi and hardcore but even when the group is angry they sound more like they're trying to start a party rather than a revolution. Despite the fact that this record lacks amazing songwriting or performance, this is a strong release from a decent punk band with solid chops.



- Johnny Gaffney

CLAIR DE LUNE

Marionettes
(Deep Elm Records)
deepelm.com

On "Marionettes," Clair De Lune bring a new, eclectic sound to the table. I never thought such a sound was possible but the band is a mix of the emotive lyrics of Brand New, the theatricality of Queen, and the ambiance of Sigur Ros. As odd such a style may sound, amazingly the band makes it work. From afar, and due to their affiliation with Deep Elm, Records, one may suspect that they are just another faceless emo band, like I did, but such a judgment could not be further from the truth. The band fails to fall into the pitfalls of that genre with unique lyrics, arrangements, and one of the most valued parts of the band's sound - the driving piano that adds texture and style to the band's sound. This is an enthralling release from a band that dares to play their own style, and with success.

- Johnny Gaffney



ZEBRAHEAD

The Show Must Go Off -
Live at The House of Blues (DVD)
(Kung Fu Records)
zebrahead.com

This was actually a really well put-together DVD. The sound is great and it's very professional looking. I felt

like I was watching something on MTV. My first thought about the music was "commercial punk." It sounded mostly like what you would expect to hear from punk. Then came featured outbursts, from the second vocalist, of fast-paced punk vocals with a hint of a hip-hop rhythm. It gave their music much more personality and definitely distinguished them a bit. They have kind of a Linkin Park thing going with a vocalist that sings and a vocalist that raps. Throw all of that in with a Green Day vibe and you've got this very catchy album with great personality.

- Jessi Morgan



THE MATCHES

E. Von Dahl Killed The Locals
(Epitaph Records)
thematches.com

Beyond the kick-ass artwork that goes along with this album is a totally head-bobbing punk sound with an uplifting, cheerful essence. I have honestly never heard an indie album with more prospective radio hits! So many elements beyond the actual music contribute to make this an all-around great album, including the production and mastering. The smooth sound applied to each song makes the vocals easy to listen to as well as every aspect of the band. "Chain Me Free" is by far my favorite track, it's one of those songs you can totally relate to and see yourself chillin' in your car with this tune booming out the windows. This CD was made to buck up even the worst mood.

- Jessi Morgan



SCATTER THE ASHES

Devout/The Modern Hymn
(Epitaph Records)
scattertheashes.com

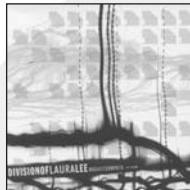
It's always great to review indie bands, but when it's as impressive as Scatter The Ashes, it makes the writing just kind of spill out of the pen. "Devout/ The Modern Hymn" is a great album with such emphatic sound that is balanced out with level vocals. The whole CD presents a clean but heavy



sound to it. I really dig Track 3, "Division" as it portrays a great build-up quality that totally kept me listening and wanting more. The drummer had me tapping my pens like a mad woman throughout the whole album. I have to say that the heavy screaming doesn't usually tickle my fancy, but the passion that surges out of each song has me more than intrigued to check these guys out live. Nothing but pure goodness. Two thumbs up my friends.

- Jessi Morgan

DIVISION LAURA LEE
Das Not Compute
(Burning Heart/ Epitaph)
divisionoflauralee.com



Plain and simple, I'm really grooving on this CD! Hands down the best thing I've heard all year (except maybe The Marvels)! DoLL has really been turning it up for the last couple years and this might just be the one to break it open for these guys. Man, I hope so...A couple years ago I got the Hives disc to review, I said it was the best thing ever, and 8 months later the thing caught on fire. Hmm...another Scandinavian band on Burning Heart/Epitaph with an unique radio-friendly sonic assault? When compared to the Hives, though, DoLL is a little less garage, a little more electronic-sounding, and definitely more danceable. Look out, kiddies! Mark my words, DoLL will be all over the place within 6 months. Go get this disc today, tell your pals about it, and by Christmas you'll be so über-cool and ahead of everyone! The best track? Umm..."Sneaking Up On Mr. Prez" would have to be my favorite. On a completely side note...I have a new nomination for the "Ugliest Man in Rock'n'Roll." Lemmy has easily been the ugliest guy for years...but check out Per Stålberg from DoLL: I rest my case.



- Smash

REFUSED

Songs to fan the flames of discontent
(Startracks/Burning Heart/ Epitaph)
epitaph.com



Right out of the gate - not a web address to be found anywhere on this disc - not even the Epitaph address! What's up with that? Everybody's got their own address nowadays! You can't go anywhere without www.something.com slapping you in the face at every turn...even stupid stuff! I mean, c'mon, there are billions of inane things like www.poptarts.com and www.twinkiesproject.com to serve absolutely NO PURPOSE, but these folks can't give me anything so that I

can actually learn something about them? As my old pal Tim would've grumbled, "Fucking nitwits..." But then this is about the music, huh? I almost forgot...these guys RULE! If I had ANY web info or a press kit, I might be able to tell you why this album from 1996 has just now been licensed to Burning Heart and is being re-released eight years later. But noooooo... I tossed this disc to one of my metalhead pals and he told me it was too heavy. WHAT? Friggin' pansy! I'm in hardcore heaven here: grinding, crunching, plodding, thrashing, screaming, head-banging, jerk-stopping, and moshing (at least in my mind)! This disc is TERRIFIC and it SHOULD be heard...1996, though? Maybe I'm just confused from bobbing my head up and down? Regardless of any of the extraneous crap, an ab-fab disc—check it out!

- Smash

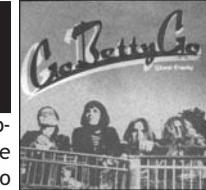
JOEY CAPE & TONY SLY
Acoustic
(Fat Wreck Chords)
fatwreck.com



I'd be lying if I said that my first thought upon seeing this was anything but "Why?" Hear me out: Two singers from punk bands doing a split disc of acoustic versions of their bands' tunes (with a couple new tunes thrown in for good measure)...just what the world needs?#\$@! I must say, though, I was pleasantly surprised; it ain't half-bad! Highlights? Tony Sly's (No Use 4 A Name) "Not Your Savior" and "Justified Black Eye" are both awesome—the best two on the disc. I think his musical style, vocal power, and song arrangements work better than Joey Cape's (Lagwagon). Cape's "Move the Car" is good, but his moodier style and the often elaborately forced arrangements and production just don't work as well as Sly's. I'd love to pontificate on all the intricacies of the songs' translations from electric to acoustic, but neither of these bands has ever gotten much listening over at the Smash residence. It's not that I dislike either of the bands - it's more that friends tossed me the discs, they got a couple listenings, nothing struck me as fantastic, and they got thrown on the shelf. There's only so much time, y'know? I must say, though, that this disc has prompted me to go search out those dusty Fat Wreck relics from my collection—I must've missed something the first time through! (Maybe that's the point?)

- Smash

GO BETTY GO
Worst Enemy
(Side One Dummy)
sideonedummy.com



Sick of crappy all-girl pop-punk alternative bands like The Donnas? Well I am, and Go

Betty Go has arrived and cured that illness. They rock so steady incorporating rock, pop, punk and even Spanish elements into a smooth, well-delivered album. The thing I love about these guys is that they don't try to be all about their all-girl band. They aren't feminists and just want to rock out to good music. All of the components of the band play well. The guitar and bass blend well into the music and the fact that all of the girls are backing vocalists really makes the music great and memorable. I knew after hearing the first song, "Worst Enemy," that this band is experienced and deserves recognition.

- Ari Weinkle

ALKALINE TRIO

One Man Army

(Vagrant)

alkalinetro.com



As I started listening to Alkaline Trio's new album, I was taken aback at how emo and soft their first song is. It's a simple love song about trying to get over a girl. I can't say I was impressed at the melodies, or even the lyrics and the instrumentals seemed dry and uninspired. However, as I continued to listen, the songs became increasingly more melodic and well put together. This sums up the album. Much of it, including "Hating Every Minute" and "Dead and Broken" are well done, with a large amount of variation, simple vocals, and atmospheric guitar and drum work. The other one third of the album seems less polished and more thrown together. All in all One Man Army is a well-constructed compilation of true pop punk rock.

- Ari Weinkle

ROSIE HUNTRESS

Kissing and Telling

(Curve Of The Earth)

rosiehuntress.com



Kissing and Telling screams alternative pop. There is just no end to pop bands nowadays. In general, Rosie Huntress brings nothing new to the scene. Most of the album you will have heard. There are obvious differences such as the sweet voice of Rosie Huntress, and the somewhat strange melodies throughout the album. However, it seems as if most of the songs are recycled pop songs of the past. There is one exception, this being "Brokenhearted," a unique, amazing song. It has amazing lyrics and an extremely catchy chorus. If the rest of the album were as good as this song, it would be worth buying. Nonetheless, if you are a fan of poppy alternative music, "Kissing and Telling" might be worth your time.

- Ari Weinkle

SOUNDS LIKE VIOLENCE

Pistol

(Deep Elm Records)

deepelm.com



Angry Swedish punk rock with energizer-like energy - Sounds Like Violence. These guys are insane...they are all over the place - and loud as hell. "You Give Me Heart Attacks" opens the CD with it's honest raw emotion blended with violent hardcore...I can guarantee someone has had a heart attack at one of their shows - while listening to this tune. They remind me of Planes Mistaken for Stars (without the cute emo name and with much more straightforward drive). Deep Elm was onto something when they picked up these hardcore/screamo members somewhere in Europe...you have not heard the last of them!

MPH

- *Samantha*

RONNIE EARL & THE BROADCASTERS

Now My Soul

(Stony Plain)

ronnieearl.com



Earl, formerly with blues stalwarts Roomful of Blues, is long overdue for guitar king crossover success with the rock crowd. "Now My Soul" opens with a Jimmy Smith tune, "Blues for J," a swinging, jazzy instrumental that fittingly highlights the organ pumping of Broadcaster keys man, Dave Limina. Otis Rush's "Double Trouble" follows with Kim Wilson (Fabulous Thunderbirds) guesting on harp and vocals, Ronnie scorching his fret board for the ten-minute showcase. Blues purists will love that nod to Rush while fans of Santana will dig Greg Piccolo's guest vocal turn on "Feel like Goin' On." "Walkin' on the Sea" is a bit of Jesus blues that bounces along with the soulful sound of the Silver Leaf Gospel choir, Limina's organ playing turning the studio into a rockin' church house. Earl also writes about half of the tunes here, one of the best being "Kay My Dear," where his guitar seems to drip tears before it screams in frustration, ultimately ending the song with a brief schizo moment of each. Earl literally has the blues, suffering from clinical depression and chronic fatigue and therefore performs live only for his fans in his local stomping grounds, the Boston area. Thank you, Ronnie, for giving this gift to the rest of us.

- Kevin Wierzbicki

WWW.SOUNDCHECKMAG.NET

FROM THE FOUNDRY

BANE OF EXISTENCE

Humanity's.Splinterd.Salvation
baneofexistence.com

What do you say about a CD that takes you to the depths of hell and introduces you to Satan? You say thank you Bane Of Existence, may I please have some more. "Humanity's.Splinterd.Salvation" is one of those death metal records that I wish wouldn't end. I think I listened to it for over a week straight when I first got it. Track #1, "From Soiled Heart To Infected Tongue," is by far my favorite, and not only because of the name. BOE uses voice samples in such an evil way for intros to Track #3, "The Approaching," and Track #4, "Denounced," that I had nightmares. Other noteworthy tracks would be #6, "Iconoclast" and #9, "Cankerous." O.K., so I named most of the tracks, that should tell you to get Bane Of Existence's, "Humanity's.Splinterd.Salvation" as soon as humanly possible. Oh yes, they are also available live at many skull-bashing shows, including The Mayhem Convention on July 24th at The Worcester Palladium along with such bands as Suffocation, Mastodon, and Cannae, to name a few. Check out www.harderfaster666.com for more info and listen to Harder Faster with Mike Hsu on 107.3 FM WAAF at 11 p.m., Monday-Friday.

- Metal Wench



NOOSEBOMB

Brain Food For The Braindead
shiftyrecords.com

O.K., so I had two CDs with the same drummer this issue. BOE is the first and Noosebomb is the second, a three-piece outfit, with their first release, "Brain Food For The Braindead." Genius record title. If you are in any way a Black Sabbath fan, then this a band you should totally check out. I do mean that musically and in no way vocally at all, Noosebomb has their own take on that and it's a good one. The first track, "Hell Bent For Retirement," will explain it all. Noosebomb has a way of catching your ear and then taking a bite and spitting it out. Very good musicianship in this trio. They use voice samples and echos in a comical good way too. Track #4, "Multi-Facial Personality," is my favorite and again, genius title. This is another one of those Sabbath-like metal tunes that I would put



on repeat in my player. I really don't have to say anymore except to go ahead and get Noosebomb's, "Brain Food For The Braindead" for yourself.

- Metal Wench

ASCENDANCY

Rise Of A Dead Empire
ascendancymetal.com

This CD hit me in the face on the first track, "Darkness Within." With its sick drums and speed metal sound, what wouldn't you like about it. The production is done well and the art on the front and back are a nice touch of evil. Track #4, "Evisceral Battery," has pretty good guitar solos at the end. But that leads into a drum solo, over a minute long, on the beginning of Track #5, "Forever Desensitized," that in my opinion could have been left out. The rest of the track is fine. The last track, "No Fear With A Death-wish" is very nice. The beginning sounds like a death march coming to get you, and then the vocals break, then it goes back to a maximum velocity death march. Good way to end a record, guys. All in all I would have to say that Ascendancy's "Rise Of A Dead Empire" is an embodiment of metal.

- Metal Wench

HALOBURN

Unspoken
(Capo Entertainment)
haloburn.com

This one borders on the realm of all-out impressive. We're talkin' insane guitar work, soaring vocal melodies that melt into guttural roars, some Rodan-sized rhythmic backing, and a few intricate song-structure twists that'll keep you on your toes for the album's duration. Now, knob-polishin' aside, and I do REALLY dig this release, but my only main gripe with this CD is that a few of the songs utilize far too many riffs for my interest to remain fully sustained. This factor is most evident in Track 3 ("Feel Like You") which would completely(!) rule (and coulda' been the album's single) if the early and quite effective "chorus" were reused later in the track in the stead of the later-integrated and out-of-the-blue riffs that draw the track out for far too long. Hey, could be worse though. Anyway, the overall verdict: This band beats the living tar outta most signed acts through its sheer talent and songwriting ability



alone, and "Unspoken" has more than a few infectious metal cuts (Track 1, 2, and 11 slay!), but at times the main message becomes hazy through an overcluttering of changeups. I still would give this one a 7.5/8 out of 10. REALLY fn good band! Think: Tool meets Nothingface?

- Deek

BEYOND THE EMBRACE
Insect Song
(Metal Blade)
metalblade.com

The best way to describe this album is a modern version of Metallica/Megadeth style thrash mixed with a dash of Sweden. It is easy to get turned off by this album upon the first listen. The sound appears to be more commercial when compared to their melodic death metal peers. However, don't be fooled. Unlike their extreme counterparts, Beyond the Embrace capture a certain emotion...something so fresh, unique, and at the same time nostalgic. It's balls-out, straight-up melodic metal with no barriers. Just so there's no confusion, the singing is in NO WAY the whiney emo shit that is the staple of some newer hardcore bands. This album is what Metallica might sound like today if they weren't such money-grubbing pussies. There's a lot of heart, passion, and talent put into this album. The songs will surely have you cranking your stereo as you sing along while banging your head (just try and keep your eyes on the road).



- Matt O'Dette

TORCH BEARER
Yersinia Pestis
(Metalblade)

I have no idea what "Yersinia Pestis" is supposed to mean - although it sounds like the name of some fancy herbal tea you'd find at one of those



metalblade.com

hoity-toity Bread 'n' Circus grocery joints - but I'm guessing it might actually translate into something to the effect of "your jaw will soon be torn off and shoved up your rectum." Just one man's guess. But here goes...Torch Bearer are a band who have learned the ways of the Morbid Angel trade, and are now one of the few bands that comparatively have earned the right to dub their mentors "a molasses laden, dirge band" - yeah, THAT'S how fast Torch Bearer are. Last night, 1 a.m., I'm drivin' home, contemplating jerking the wheel as I cross a bridge so that I can personally hand Beezelebub a copy of this CD, just to see him wet himself. THAT evil. Think: Triple-speed Obituary.

- Deek McDeekula

THE HEAVILS
Heavilution
(Metal Blade Records)
theheavils.com



The Heavils produce the sound you'd expect to hear when Devin Townsend sits behind the mixing board, something completely audibly unexpected. Place aside for a moment the gimmickry (yes, this is that band which creates the "meanies" - their own custom guitars in all kinds of ludicrous shapes) and you can appreciate the textured and heavy songs the band produces. Yes, their uncouth guitar tone can be at times a hindrance, and Cheap Trick cover "Just Got Back" is oddly gratuitous. The track sounds a bit out of place amidst the heaviness of some of the album's other romps, but "Heavilution" seems bent on being out of place, so you can decide for yourself. The track does feature a ripping solo by Rick Neilsen himself, again, odd. If these guys stick to playing odd heavy music with Gwar-esque vocals, as they do on much of the album, methinks they should be just fine.

- Al The Meanie

CONTESTS!!! **GIVE AWAYS!!!** **DRINK SPECIALS!!!**

ROCK N' REVERE
Club Lido - Thursday Nights
Doors @ 9 - Party til 2 a.m.
1290 North Shore Avenue, Revere, MA.
Across Parking Lot of Blue Line Wonderland T-Stop
In a Band? Questions? 203.767.3266

A stylized illustration of a guitar on a stage. The guitar is black with white pickguard and strings. Overlaid on the guitar are three sets of text: "CONTESTS!!!", "GIVE AWAYS!!!", and "DRINK SPECIALS!!!". To the right of the guitar, the words "ROCK N' REVERE" are written in large, bold, block letters. Below that, "Club Lido - Thursday Nights" and "Doors @ 9 - Party til 2 a.m." are listed. At the bottom, the address "1290 North Shore Avenue, Revere, MA." and "Across Parking Lot of Blue Line Wonderland T-Stop" are given. A phone number "In a Band? Questions? 203.767.3266" is also provided.

Perfect Your Project in our World-Class Mastering Facility!



Come hear why our clients have the best-sounding records and join them in having your artistic vision realized to its fullest potential.



Refining Perfection

(617) 527-2200

info@peerlessmastering.com

www.peerlessmastering.com

Some recent clients we've worked with: **Avoid One Thing, Dropkick Murphys, Jeff Tweedy/Wilco, The Magnetic Fields, Jack Drag, Victory at Sea, Blake Hazard, Flexie, Seana Carmody, Voices On the Verge, Karate, Thalia Zedek, Chris Brokaw, Helms, Matthew, Lou Barlow, Willard Grant Conspiracy, Skating Club, The Charms, Clairvoyants, Emily Sparks, Stephin Merritt, Lost City Angels, Wheat, The Profits, Drexel, Big D and the Kid's Table, Brett Rosenberg Problem, Kimchee, Merge, Rykodisc, Southern, Epitaph and many more.**



Artist Development

Don't just make recordings. Make connections.

James O'Brien
Marie's Children
Labb
Serena
Evil People
Atlantic
EMI
Sony

Get Producer Jordan Tishler involved in your career.

Develop your sound.

Develop your songwriting, your stage show, your touring.

Record in our world class private studio.

Make the connections that count!



Demo Sponsorships -
Get to know us
while we invest in
you!

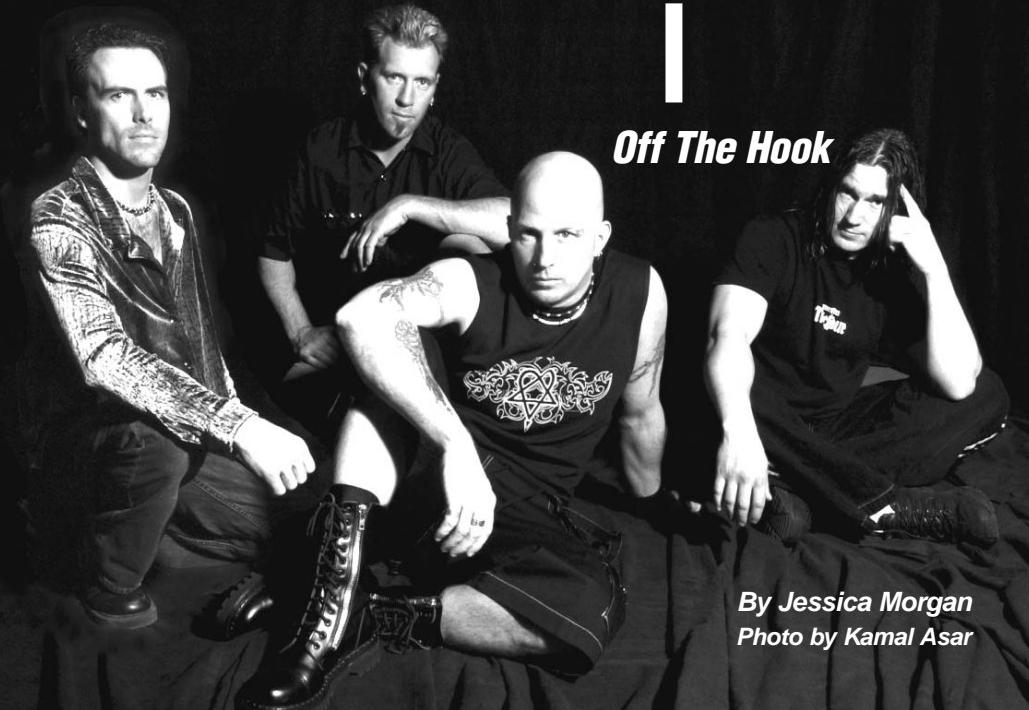
If you have the talent, we have the way...

Digital Bear Entertainment

Artist Development, Music Production and Publishing

617 522 4550 • PO Box 1142 Boston MA 02130 • www.digitalbear.com • info@digitalbear.com

Off The Hook



*By Jessica Morgan
Photo by Kamal Asar*

With a new CD, *Off The Hook*, and numerous kick-ass shows under their belt, including the Music As A Weapon II Tour with Disturbed, this four-piece band has made an incredible impact on listeners and many industry people. The new album, produced by Anthony Resta, can be found at multiple music stores and is quickly selling out. After hearing the CD and seeing them live multiple times, I had to sit down and find out what makes these guys *i*. This extremely humorous group of guys were not only well-spoken, but they had plenty of interesting insights on exactly what it is that they are out to do. Read on.

SoundCheck Magazine: Explain your new album "*Off The Hook*."

Rich: It's about communication, "Off the Hook" means...ya know, it's just crazy, when you listen to it, it starts with "Never Did It," it's like this crazy mantra. It's like, what is this guy saying? And then it goes into a guitar interlude and then to "Drive" and it's just all over the place. So it is off the hook, it's crazy, it goes all over the place but it does have one tie through it, if you listen to the lyrics it talks about relationships either entering them or losing them.....

Keenan: ...and the lack of communication.

Mike: It was really Jay, too, he had to deal with a lot of shit, it's all in the lyrics. Can I say shit?

Jay (via Nextel): Stripped down in a nutshell, "Off the Hook" is just the human element completely stripped down. It's all about emotions, communications or lack thereof.

SCM: What is the name *i*?

Rich: We were looking for a name that wouldn't peg the band in any certain way, and everyone on the planet is an *i*. *i* is a statement, the reason it is lowercase is because it is more of a humble thing. When you think about what *i* encompasses...*i* is everyone on the planet.

Mike: It was wild because as soon as we changed the name from "Four" to *i*, it was like everything changed overnight. Everything changed when we changed our name. Within a month we had one the battle of the bands, we played the sky show, and we opened for Disturbed. It was such a sign.

SCM: How did you land the Disturbed gig?

Rich: We had one day left to submit material into the contest that Disturbed had going and it was like every band on the East Coast was going for this thing. I heard about it through a friend of mine and I just took the chance, I submitted a two-song demo and just kind of forgot about it, thinking that out of all the bands that submitted, how would we get picked? We were in the studio with Anthony Resta, recording "Mary" and we got a phone call from David Draiman himself! I remember what he said, "I would like to extend the offer to the band *i* to open for the Boston show for the Music as a Weapon Tour." It was unbelievable.

Mike: Then it was like Oh let me think about it, opening for Taproot, Chevelle, and

Disturbed.....hmmm...YES!

SCM: So how was the entire experience?

Mike: Oh it was incredible! We actually got 1,500 hits on our website the day after the show.

Rich: I'll tell you right now, the guys in Disturbed are a class act. They treated us with class. Most people crap on everybody when they make it big, these guys used nothing but respect towards us, they gave us a sound check and everything. Someday down the road we would love to work with them again.

Jay: They were just very professional and they were just amazing gentleman. Very gracious.

SCM: What is the next step for i?

Mike: I would say to get our music national!

Rich: I want to get more people into the i camp and have more people know and hear i.

Jay: I really think the next step would just to get the show on the road.

Keenan: Our next big step would be to find big management. That is our biggest thing right now, we are seeking real, major management.

SCM: What would your goals be other than getting signed?

Keenan: To be a big writing band, to be a 15-20 album type band.

Rich: To have a career of just writing the deepest, most emotional, satisfying and artistic music that I could possibly write.

Mike: Signed to me is just a vehicle so that I can actually do this for a living. I would do this for minimal money. It's all about the music. The goal is to be able to do this and to never have to have a day job ever again.

SCM: What does your music mostly reflect?

Rich: Struggle. We strive to give our listeners that gut feel, like it's a familiar experience.

Keenan: I think like a deep kind of love, almost, because just about every song is about a relationship of some sort and what is good or bad about it.

Jay: What I hope the listeners will get is that wow feeling like they relate to it and get it. Our hopes is that they will identify with they are hearing.

SCM: With the size of the local scene these days, what would you say distinguishes you from the other local bands?

Mike: Jay's bald head.... ha ha..seriously though, I think we try to be really musical, we all have that background and we're really aggressive. We write for the song we don't write to impress everyone else.

Rich: We just have very distinguished sounds and we add the vocals and melodies that not many bands are willing to explore whether it's heavy or melodic. And we also have much appreciation for the other bands. I can honestly say that we have never had any problems when it comes to the other bands.

Keenan: I also have to add that i is made up of four guys with the same level of drive.

SCM: How do you feel about the competition in the local scene?

Jay: We don't see competition; we are our own competition.

Rich: We put our eye on a different ball. We don't like to compete with our brothers.

Keenan: I think a lot of the other locals are pretty psyched that we are doing what we're doing. If a band in the same scene makes it, it kind of puts the scene on the map, it paves the road.

Mike: It does get ugly between some bands sometimes but I think in the long run we are all just trying to do the same thing and if a band happens to become successful, there is a lot of support and respect received from everyone.

SCM: With the new album, are you hoping to create solutions with the music or raise questions?

Jay: Life is too hard to try and solve sometimes so I would definitely just try to raise questions, every question just raises more awareness and with solutions it just takes too long to get there. I would definitely rather raise questions.

Rich: I would like to raise questions....what the hell are these guys going to do next?

Mike: I'd say raise questions also. It keeps things on the go and the curiosity is always there.

SCM: As a local band on the verge of major success, what is your outlook on downloading music?

Mike: I used to be like everyone else and I thought it was no big deal, but now I have a real big problem with it because it is making it harder for bands like us to get noticed because the record companies are totally reconstructing and merging and we are just trying to get ourselves out there.

Rich: Digital distribution is the wave of the future and the companies are going to crumble and they're just going to have to figure out how to control it or they're going to go under; that's it plain and simple. That's not my problem because every day when we wake up in the morning, we are musicians and when we go to sleep at night, we're musicians. We'll still be playing and people will still be able to hear and get our music, that's all...that's it bottom line, let them worry about the nickels and dimes.

SCM: So where can we find you guys?

Mike: We mostly play Southern New Hampshire/Northern, Massachusetts.

Keenan: We've done Boston clubs like Paradise, Copperfields, Goodtimes, and we played at The Palladium and The Orpheum.

Rich: We always have our shows posted up on the site. ☀

For more about i log onto www.wearei.com for show schedules and awesome music downloads.

The return of American Psychobilly!

TIGER ARMY

アーミー

タイガー



III: GHOST TIGERS RISE

NEW ALBUM (CD & LP) & 10" EP In Stores!

Check out the brand-new 13-song album Featuring the single "Rose of the Devil's Garden"



www.tigerarmy.com
www.hell-cat.com





FUNK-O-RAMA

vol. 9

FEATURING :

Bad Religion From First To Last The Matches Atmosphere
Pennywise Motion City Soundtrack Rancid Dropkick Murphys
The Weakerthans Matchbook Romance Scatter the Ashes
Refused Nekromantix Pulley 1208 The Bouncing Souls
Hot Water Music The Special Goodness HorrorPops Tiger Army
Division Of Laura Lee Error Eyedea & Abilities Death By Stereo

comes with FREE DVD!





KNOW YOUR INDUSTRY

By Karl Russo

Writing It Out

Hey! Since we have about six months left in the year, we're going to discuss the advantages of developing and writing a good marketing plan based upon the events that take place during the present year and creating a new plan for the coming year, ultimately assisting you in accomplishing your goals.

First let's talk a little about goals. I think we'll all agree that we love to accomplish them but how do we define them. The answer is easy. There are two types: short-term and long-term. Within the two types there are also sub types as in short-term goals that can be accomplished a day, week, or month and long-term goals that can be accomplished within six months, a year, or multiple years. How long your goals take to accomplish will depend upon your activities and what you want to accomplish. Your marketing plan will consist of both long- and short-term goals and should be written out, not just mentally noted as you get a better sense of where you are, where you've been, and where you're going.

In the music industry, your marketing plan is commonly referred to as a Promotion and Marketing Book. It is a journal in which you document every detail of your promotional activities such as the shows you play, your CD and merchandise sale numbers, and anything else you may engage in. You will record exactly how you went about doing things, what the results were, and your thoughts on whether or not to do something again such as play a show at a certain club. Should a record label show interest in you they will want to see this book because it gives them a better idea of how easy or difficult it will be to promote you as the book indicates what has worked for you and what hasn't.

O.K., so here goes. Create a document in MS Word or with some other word processing software and over the remainder of this year document your progress. Document each show you play, where it was, when it was, the attendance, and what you did to promote it. Where there any differences in this show compared to others? If so, were they negative or positive? If they were negative what was the cause? Was it because of your time slot, the location of the club, or did you not do enough promotion? If they were positive, figure out what you did to create the success, document it, and do it again next time. Do the same thing for CD and merchandise sales. Did you sell more CDs at your shows, in record retail stores, on your website or on an online record store such as www.cdfreedom.com? All important aspects of your band should be treated this way.

At the end of the year, gather all your information and begin to write out a plan for the year ahead. Based upon the amount of shows, CD, and merchandising sales, and whatever else you engaged in, how much do you think you can do in the new year? Try to at least double this year's numbers and begin to write out your goals for the year ahead. Be realistic. Don't think that you're going to play the main stage on Ozzfest next year but of course never ignore an opportunity should it come knocking. After you've completed your plan, select a few short-term goals and write in detail how you're going to accomplish them. Begin your plan of attack that day as this will get your feet wet for the long-term goals when the time comes. Update your book each week. Revise your goals as you accomplish them as it will keep you striving for success. With regards to live shows, be sure to update them as soon as possible upon the close of the show as the events will be fresh in your mind. It's also a good idea to write a brief description of your goals on a piece of paper and keep it with you at all times so you can take it out and read it at will.

Keeping these types of records will save you a lot of trouble in the future and prove to the industry professionals that you care about your career. So get rocking...uhm...I mean writing.

*Karl is a graduate of U Mass Lowell with a degree in Music Business
and is available for further questions at kahli676@yahoo.com*

OAK GROVE RECORDING

www.oakgroverecording.com • 781-321-3069

OAK GROVE RECORDING offers big-studio quality with the ambience and personal attention to your recording projects you'd expect from a smaller studio. Here are a few of the reasons artists come from all over New England and other parts of the country to record with us:

- **We specialize in songwriters without a band!** Professional instrumental backup, vocalists, writing, arranging
- **Huge room for bands.** Drums sound so good that other studio owners sometimes track their drums here!
- **Five isolation booths** to help capture those hard-to-record solos
- **Digital hard-disk** and analog recording/mixdown in both studios
- **Pro Tools**, Digital Performer, and Nuendo software
- **78-input automated Amek console**
- **2" 24-track and 1" 16-track tape** with dbx noise reduction



Call for a free consultation and tour of the studios!



- CD mastering
- Great microphone selection
- Wide choice of outboard gear
- New and classic keyboards
- Two MIDI stations
- Comfortable, relaxed atmosphere
- Directly on the T (Orange Line)

For the full story, visit our
redesigned web site at
www.oakgroverecording.com

**Ask about our one-on-one audio production
and engineering courses**

65 Clinton Street • Malden, MA 02148 • 781-321-3069



THE RACK SPACE

By Rich Papa

Chord Substitutions



Hey I hope your enjoying your summer. Ready to get started? This month I wanted to talk a little bit about chord substitutions... Within each scale are a bunch of opportunities for you to explore the wonders of music. Let's take a C major scale for instance... CDEFGABC... Now you know that the chords run in this order...

I-IONIAN-MAJOR-CEGB-1357-PRIMARY

II-DORIAN-MINOR-DFAC-1b35b7-PRIMARY

III-PHRYGIAN-MINOR-EGBD-1b35b7-SECONDARY

IV-1 YDIAN-MAJOR-FACE-1357-SECONDARY

V-MIXOLYDIAN-DOM-GBDF-135b7-PRIMARY

VI-AEOLIAN-MINOR-ACEG-1b35b7-SECONDARY

VII-LOCRIAN-1/2 DIM-BDFA-1b3b5b7-SECONDARY

O.K., now look at the primary chords carefully and notice that the second note of each primary chord shows the beginning of the secondary chord. Also notice on the 6th step that the C major is also the primary for the 6th. Now let's say you are playing a progression like this: dm7, g7 to cmaj7, c6, you can spice that up by adding the subs in at the next measure... so the progression would look like this fmaj7, bm7b5, em7, am7. When you play it, it sounds cool!! You can also play it at this level fmaj7, g7, em7, c6... It's your world when it comes to creating, so enjoy!!!

Handwritten musical score for guitar warm-ups, featuring six staves of chords and fingerings. The score includes the following sections:

- WARM UPS**: A series of 10 chords: Dm7-5, G7-1073, Cm7-375371, F#m7-51357, Bm7-5-1, b5, b7, b3, Em7-3511, 5, b7, Am7-1, 5, b7, b3.
- Fingerings**: Fingerings for each chord, such as 0 4 7, 0 3 7, 0 3 7, 0 3 7, 0 3 7, 0 3 7, 0 3 7, 0 3 7, 0 3 7, 0 3 7.
- Chords**: Chords for each staff: Dm7, G7, Em7, F#m7, Bm7, Am7, Dm7, G7, Em7, Cm7, F#m7, Bm7, Em7, Am7.
- Fingerings**: Fingerings for each staff: 0 1 2 3, 0 2 3, 0 2 3, 0 1 2 3, 0 1 2 3, 0 1 2 3, 0 1 2 3, 0 1 2 3, 0 1 2 3, 0 1 2 3.
- Chords**: Chords for each staff: Dm7, G7, Em7, F#m7, Bm7, Am7, Dm7, G7, Em7, Cm7, F#m7, Bm7, Em7, Am7.

Rich Papa and The Rack Space is sponsored by George L.'s Strings and Chords.

Send feedback via e-mail at: papalzzy04@msn.com

George L's



THE ACE OF BASS

By Alan Andrade

"In Unison"

This issue I'd like to talk about another function of our great instrument, the unison line. Since the beginning of music, parts for instruments in all ensembles have had times where two or more instruments are playing the same line. This method creates a big thick sound when instruments of different characters, range, and timbres are playing the same passage. In rock there are endless songs that are based on a unison hook where the guitar and bass are performing the same line. When a rock guitar and a big-sounding bass are playing a bluesy, charged-up unison I get the chills. Led Zeppelin took this method as far as it can go. From "Black Dog," "Whole Lotta Love," "Livin' Lovin' Maid," etc., they created a huge sound of their own with over-the-top vocals. Who can forget Living Colour's "Cult of Personality," "Sweet Emotion" by Aerosmith, "Day Tripper" by the Beatles, Rage Against the Machine, the instrument break in Stevie Wonder's "Sir Duke," many Van Halen tunes...it's just endless. This is a great asset to have in your songwriting arsenal. When a unison hook is played, in my opinion, it adds instant excitement. I've heard unison lines that are extremely difficult but when played together and the instruments are tight..."forget about it" (spoken like Silvio from "The Soprano's"...who's a Winthrop, MA native by the way and a musician, as we all know) it's always impressive!

As bass players though, we do come into some challenges in more complex unison lines. The physical nature of our instrument and our own ability on the bass guitar will dictate how we perform with instruments that are much more capable of speedy passages. Not all of us can keep up to a doublepicked guitar run so when we do write we must make sure the line is functional for whatever feels musical or rhythmical in a song...not to just show off!

Remember to really listen to each other when performing unison passages. Everything from the feel, to lengths of notes, to even playing a little behind or ahead of the beat. Every facet of music utilizes unison runs. Using a Real Book is a good way to learn some "heads" (beginning of song that is usually a unison-written melody or theme before open improv for jazz songs), which can be performed by just about any instrument.

Below I've included a couple of lines that I have written and used in recordings. Tempo is open to your interpretation. I've also included a couple of famous unison lines that I'm sure will be familiar. Again the key is to play the lines fluidly and the phrasing should be as exact as all the musicians involved in the unison passage. Have fun, it's what it's all about!

Link of the Month: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/americas/3498847.stm>

Web Sites of the Month: www.harmony-central.com www.talkbass.com

Local player of the Month: Lou Spagnola of Tangerine www.tangerineband.com

① MOBY DICK - L. ZEPPELIN

② LAST CHILD - AEROSMITH

③ SUPERSTITION - S. WONDER

Send me your questions or feedback via e-mail at: tuaze@yahoo.com



SPOTLIGHT THE SINGER

By Jeannie Deva

Why Vocal Technique?, Part Two

Cause and Effect

You may ask yourself: "Do I really have to know how vocal sound is made, to sing or talk?" Obviously, you don't. It is an automatic process. But if automatic, why do so many singers run into difficulties?

Your voice responds to your ideas, thoughts and emotions. If you think you have to push hard to sing high, for example, you will. However, technically, your body may not need to do that. Ignorance is not bliss. If you don't know what's right for your instrument, how can you tell if what you're doing is correct?

To enhance anything, the mysteries about it must be dispelled and replaced with understanding. Some singers just naturally work more in harmony with their bodies when singing. That, combined with having no emotional reservations about "stepping out" with their voice, results in a good sound. Perhaps this is true of you. However, even the best sounding "natural" singers find themselves singing better when knowledgeable about their instrument. I'm sure this makes sense to you. Knowledge and certainty go hand-in-hand.

As long as your vocal instrument can function properly and unimpeded, you will have vocal consistency, control, increased range, and yes, a wealth of different sounds at your disposal. By releasing any harmful manipulations, you'll avoid the usual side effects that more demanding music and vocal styles can create, such as pain, strained sound, hoarseness, nodes, register break, weak upper register, and so on.

The Purpose of Technique

Perhaps you can remember a time you heard a singer who left you untouched emotionally, but was said to have "great technique." The fact is, that singer did not have great technique, because it obstructed the meaning and emotion of the song. Technique is only as good as it can support, not overshadow, your communication. The "perfect sound" means nothing if it is not used as a tool with which to create an emotional response.

A singer's role is to communicate vocally through music and to create an emotional effect on their audience. Some sounds are more appropriate for some feelings than others. The more sounds you have at your command, the more freely you can express yourself.

Performance time is not the time to focus on technique. Your attention should not have to be on how to get your sound, or on whether your voice will make it through the gig. When you step onto that stage, you should already be confident in your ability to play your instrument. You should be free to "work your audience" and give them a great show! - and have fun while you're at it!

So, my message to you is: it is possible to sound the way you choose without hurting your voice, without limiting the length of your career, without having to make do with a small range, without having to sing raspy when you want to sound smooth, or having to sing smoothly when you want to sound raspy. Whether you're a beginner or a pro, you deserve to freely use any sound that best conveys your message. You deserve to have confidence in your voice! And you can!

Special Offer

You can receive a FREE booklet of some of Jeannie Deva's most recommended vocal warm-ups and cool-downs. Just visit www.JeannieDeva.com Mention that you read this article.

Jeannie Deva is acclaimed to be one of the top voice teachers and recording studio vocal coaches internationally. She is the Founder and Director of Jeannie Deva® Voice Studios, now celebrating its 25 Anniversary, and of The Deva Method® - A Non-Classical Approach for Singers™. Clients include many local, national and international acts. Contact: Jeannie Deva Voice Studios; www.JeannieDeva.com; Boston and Arlington: 617-536-4553; Cape Cod: 617-413-0243; Los Angeles: 818-446-0932.

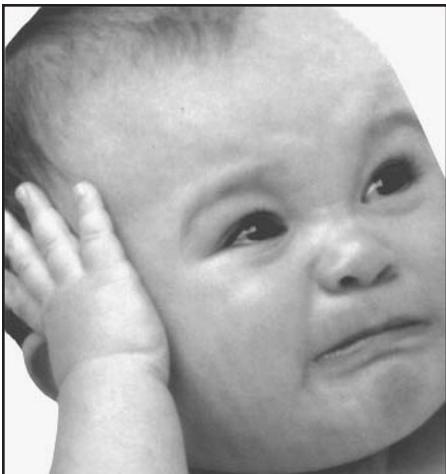


DOES YOUR MOTHER KNOW YOU DO THIS?

By Joel Simches

Episode 31: *The Great Train Wreck*

No matter how well rehearsed a band is, no matter how many times a band plays a song, inevitably someone in the band will have a brain fart that will bring the song irretrievably to a grinding halt. Now that's okay if that happens during a rehearsal, but at a gig it could be as embarrassing as being caught in the men's room again with a Thornbird and a tube of K-Y. If there are predictable problem areas in your set, the best thing to do is to determine the cause and then drill them in rehearsal, but inevitably someone is going to forget to go to the bridge or play the wrong chords at a gig. If you can't recover and forge ahead, if the mistake becomes so devastating that a train wreck is now becoming a work in progress, there are two things that you can do. You could stop the song cold in the middle and proceed to tell the audience that the guitar player is a total fuck-up who couldn't even tune a fish, and that you just caught your drummer bonking your girlfriend on top of the ice machine behind the bar, and that your precious singer still can't hit that high note because he's menstruating heavily again and can't function without a facial and a manicure, or you can just move on to the next song and continue with your set as if nothing ever happened.



NEED SONIC ENHANCEMENT?

Sonic Enhancement Specialists Ltd.

888-948-0341

Joel Simches

Sound Production • Installation • Design

**ATTENTION
BASS PLAYERS!**
**Matt's Music is Boston's
exclusive dealer of**
ZON BASSES
and
MODULUS BASSES.

**If you're a bass player,
come in and put your
hands on one of these...
The sound in your head is
in these basses!**

*Discounts for
Berklee students!*



**Rt. 18 Weymouth
781-335-0700**



A black and white photograph of three men in a gritty, industrial environment. In the foreground, a man with curly hair and a beard, wearing a dark jacket over a patterned shirt, looks intensely at the camera. Behind him, another man with glasses and a leather jacket stands leaning against a wall. To his right, a third man in a leather jacket and a t-shirt with a logo looks down. The background is filled with large pipes and metal structures.

PRO N G

By Deek McDeekula

SoundCheck Magazine: *Tommy, right off the bat, you're working with a whole new lineup at this point at time, but still keeping the "Prong" monicker, as you've written most of Prong's material in the past, but aside from your new lineup of Monte Pittman, Dan Laudo, and Brian Perry, what's the scoop on the old members of Prong that a lot of us grew up with?*

Tommy: We actually, more recently, now have Mike Longworth playing on bass, and Aaron Slipp taking the place of Monte Pittman, who's now touring with Madonna - he's her guitarist. As for the old lineup: Troy (Gregory), I hear from every once in awhile, (Paul) Raven's back with Killing Joke, and Ted (Parsons) was working with Godflesh, and is in Norway now. Initially I was trying to get back with Paul, but I just needed a consistent bunch of dudes that I could rely on, and Paul's busy with a lot of stuff now.

SCM: *Yeah, and I suppose Ted being in Norway would make it more than a little bit difficult to get some practicing in. Anyway, in terms of the new album "Scorpio Rising", out on Locomotive Music - as I listened initially, it's definitely Prong alright, but it seems a more, dare I say...a more raw, aggressive, simplified, no bells 'n' whistles, version of Prong. If I'm on the money, was this a conscious decision?*

Tommy: Yeah, it was also financially dictated. It actually started off pretty complicated, and eventually by the time we got in the studio it was like, "Let's just focus on the songs and the vocals rather than a huge amount of production." I definitely think that there are still elements of the earlier records that haven't been ignored.

SCM: *...And from the content of those earlier records, it's pretty much become an established fact that Prong has been a major influencing force in the path of some of today's bigger acts - the guys in Korn have admitted it, as has Static-X, and I'd imagine that a TON of bands from Drown to Pitchshifter would say the same. Now here's my question: In your time off from Prong, behind the scenes, do you feel that you, in turn, have been influenced by any of today's bands?*

Tommy: I made a transformation, where years ago everything I listened to I would highly critique, and now I'm more open-minded about anything. When you're younger you're in your goth mode, or your strict metal thing, but I try to go with a bunch of different routes now. One of the groups I've listened to a lot recently is Palo Alto. On the other end of the spectrum, I dig a lot of extreme, underground metal bands like Unearth and Converge, so I just go all over the place these days. Initially, the groups I was weaned on - I'm talking when I started playing, from Kiss on, were a lot of post-punk bands like Joy Division, Killing Joke, Gang Of Four, and Minor Threat as well. Dag Nasty was another band I liked from the old days, Throbbing Gristle, Swans, The Misfits...I think that's the thing about Prong - we would listen to all that stuff, but we never really went into one hole.

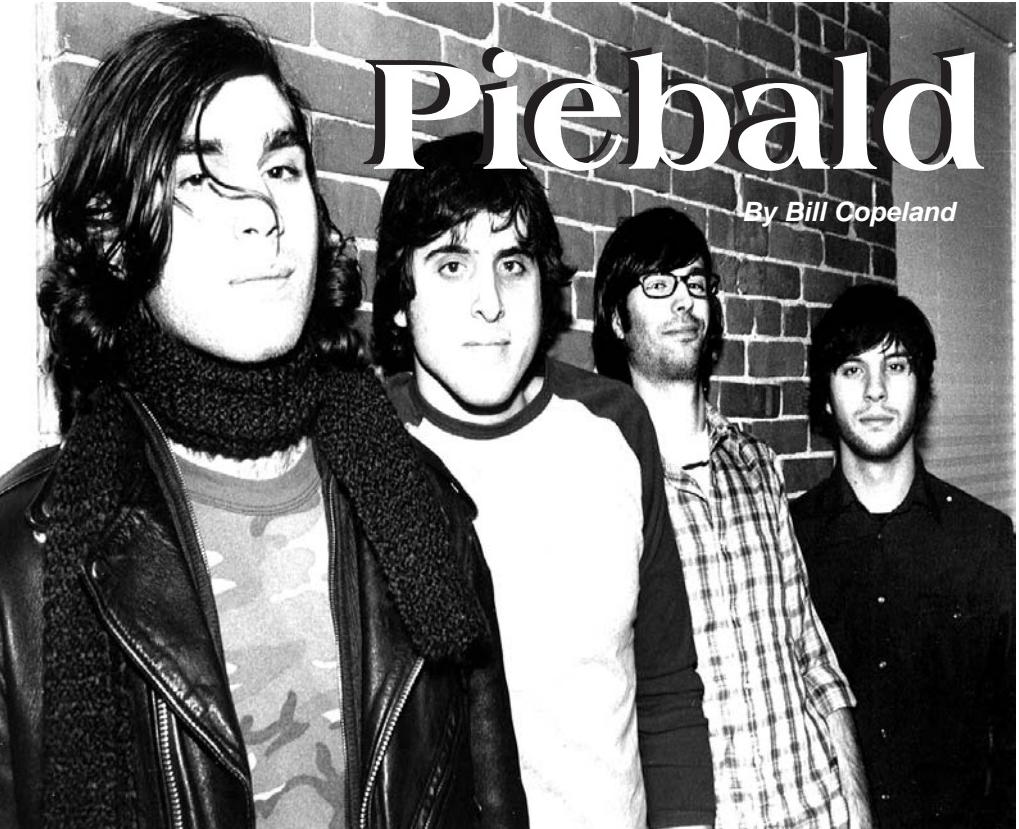
SCM: *And speaking of The Misfits, I know you just worked with Glenn Danzig for a little while, same with Rob Zombie, and I also heard that you helped out Marilyn Manson with some songwriting, to which you received no credit, that skinny bum...but tell me, what are some of the things that you gained, and/or took away from these experiences in terms of growth and wisdom from working with such huge artists?*

Tommy: I actually play on the forthcoming Danzig record, and I'm playing with them again. The thing with Glenn is that he has this spiritual connection that he's really concerned about - he doesn't question himself, and what comes into him, he lays down. That's something I try very hard to do, but I'm a questioning guy. I go in and critique myself to a point of sterility sometimes, so what I've learned is to try and ease up on myself, and that as an artist you have to trust your higher power in some way. Just let it go and don't live in the result so much - that's what I'm trying to do in a lot of things with life, to just enjoy the process.

SCM: *And the title of the new Danzig disc?*

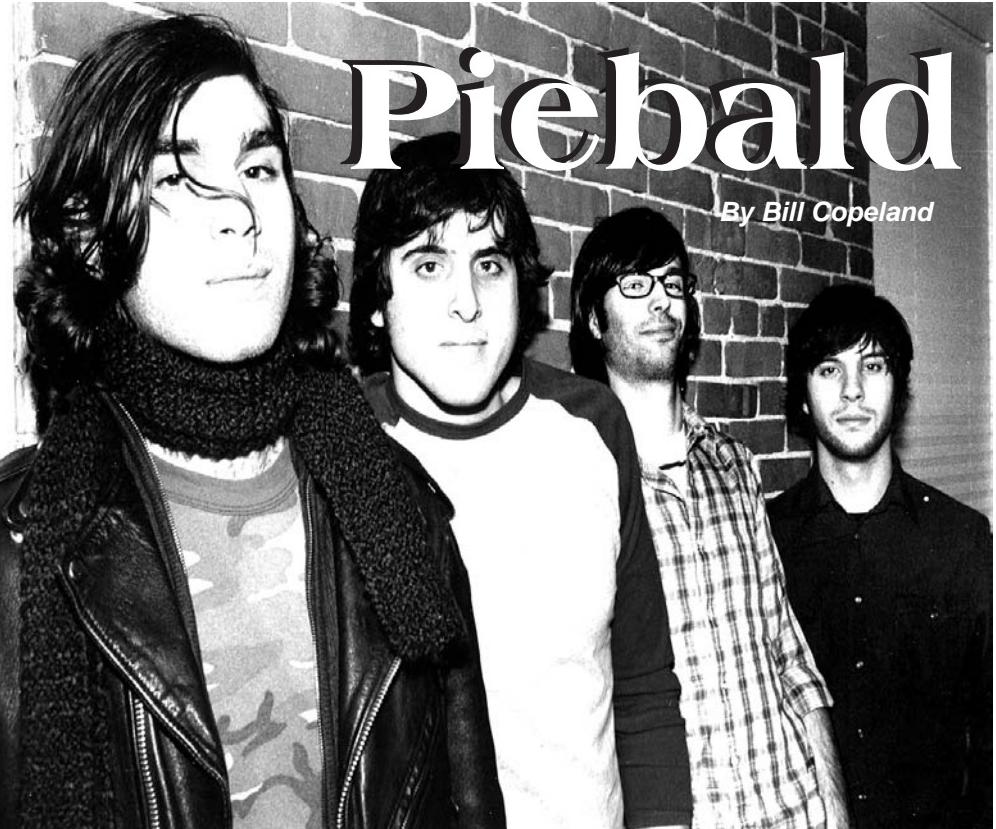
Tommy: It's called "Circle Of Snakes," and it'll be out in August.

SCM: *But in the meantime, Prong's "Scorpio Rising" is now in stores as we speak, and you readers can check out www.prongmusic.com for more on the band. ☀*



Piebald

By Bill Copeland



Nine years ago the band Piebald started out as four geeky kids from Andover, MA with big dreams. Today they're on a midsized label, and they are playing on the Vans Warped Tour. Their front man, Travis Shettel, spoke to *SoundCheck* on his cell phone from the road. Shettel was serious and focused, but he also had a lot of energy and enthusiasm about being on tour to support a new album.

Piebald are definitely looking forward to their upcoming dates on The Vans Warped Tour. "It should be interesting," Shettel said. "We've never played it before, so it could be a lot of fun. We don't really know what it's like. We've never gone to one, and we've never played at one. So we'll see what happens."

Connections between Warped Tour organizers and Piebald's label Side One Dummy landed the boys from Andover on the tour.

"Our label puts out the Warped Tour comp every year," the singer/guitarist said. "So they kind of hooked it up. They're friends. The Warped Tour guys and our label guys are friends, and they said, 'Put this band on there. We like them. They're on our label,' and they said, 'absolutely.' So we're on four dates."

Shettel said Piebald may change up the set list to entertain long time fans when the tour takes them back to Massachusetts, but he wasn't exactly sure what they will be doing. "We always use a different set list. That's been our practice lately," he said. "We always change it up so we don't get bored, and so that other people don't get bored."

When Piebald were kids in Andover, none of them had even dreamed the band would get as far as a midsized label that sends them on national tours. "I had no idea it would get like this," the singer admitted. "I'll bet it gets way crazier....imagine if you're Chris from Dashboard Confessional being like 'I never thought this was going to happen.' That's enormous."

Some critics and reviewers have said that Piebald's fourth album, *All Ears All Eyes All The Time*, is different from their previous efforts. "I don't know if we really tried to do anything differently. We just wrote some songs," Shettel said. "We probably wrote 18 songs or something and those were the 12 tracks that made it. There was no trying to be different. We try to do as much as we could, keep the

pop sensibilities in there and the rock. We tried to have it all."

One song stands out for its odd title. "Part Of Your Body Is Made Out Of Rock" seems to focus on the folly of youth. "Just watching life and other people's lives just pass by them and then grow up and make decisions and be comfortable with their decisions," Shettel said.

"All Senses Lost" was more of an experimental song and a work in progress. "That song changed a lot from when we initially made it, not so much in the words but in the music. There's a whole different intro and there's all sorts of different stuff."

The tune also shows the band's concern with people who do not fully grasp reality. "Well, lyrically it's a song about how I've been noticing lately that many people do not pay attention to their surroundings. Or, they just take action before they think about what's really happening and what's going on around them. The decision could have went very badly or very well, but if they had thought for another second it could have gone a completely different way."

Piebald's "Giving Cup" cannot be easily understood. But it has nice images. "Sometimes our songs are not maybe as much about one specific thing as a lot of things or a lot of ideas. Sometimes there's not always an actual topic. Sometimes it's a group of statements that have all been put together because they just seem to fit. But there's not always like this song is about this exact thing."

The quartet formed when they were teenagers in high school. Guitarist Aaron Stuart found the name Piebald in a textbook, and the rest is history. Together with bass player Andrew Bonner and their original drummer, Piebald were onto something with their newfound chemistry. The music press has often lumped Piebald into the emo category, but that was probably because they toured and played with emo bands.

They were only teens when they recorded "Sometimes Friends Fight" back in 1995. Now 26, Shettel said they were listening to hardcore bands then. "We were listening to Lifetime and Mohinda. We all had our indie rock thing like The Pixies and Dinosaur Jr. and stuff like that," the singer said. "We were definitely hardcore at that time." Dead Guy and Converged were also among their favorites. "They're part of our roots," Shettel said.

Piebald members were more into music than sports during their youth. Each was the type that read all the music magazines and knew all the information in the liner notes of their favorite artists. Their studied approach to music appreciation may explain why their sound had evolved over the course of four full-length CDs.

"It's definitely become more easy on the ears and more rockin', I think, and more exploratory of music, and I think the lyrical content is better and all that stuff. I'm happy about the stuff I made then. It was just a different time."

The changes were unplanned, Shettel explained. "They just happened over time. You live more life. You hear more music. You experience more things. You go to new places. All sorts of things happen. It changes your music and your outlook."

In 2002, Piebald released the CD *We Are The Only Friends We Have* to the delight of fans and music critics alike. "We were just very appreciative that our fans were into our record and that critics were also into our record," he said. "We seemed to get very good reviews for the last record. It's definitely awesome that that happened, that people are listening to it and getting something from it."

When Piebald were making *All Ears*, they were under pressure to top *We Are The Only Friends We Have*. "Not pressure like I was going to kill myself," he quipped, "we wanted to make a better record than we did last time. We consciously were aware of how we had to make a better record. We try. I like it more."

The new release, so far, does not seem to be immediately racking up the sort of rave review their last album received. "I'm hoping, though, that for a lot of people it's a grower," Shettel said. "As you listen to it more, you get more into it. I feel like those are the kind of records that are the ones that really sink into you the most. I love those records. At first you're like, 'Well, I like it, but...' then you give it another chance, you get sucked in a little more. Before you know it, you're like, 'It's one of my favorite records.'"

It's been said that Piebald is more serious on this new CD. Gone are songs like previous Piebald titles "The Monkey Versus The Robot" and "Fat And Skinny Asses." Shettel said Piebald did not intentionally take a turn for the more personal and poignant side of things.

"Nothing really intentional was done. We didn't really try for anything. The only thing we tried for was to make a batch of good new songs and record them. There was no intention to be more serious or less serious or this thing or that thing."

Piebald plays four dates on the Vans Warped Tour. They are currently touring in support of their new release. For more information, please visit www.piebald.com.

A TRIBUTE TO BLACK SABBATH

WE SOLD OUR SOUL

LIVE:
FRIDAY, JULY 23RD
CLUB GOODTIMES - SOMERVILLE, MA

CD and DVD DUPLICATION

RETAIL READY PACKAGES

INCLUDES

CD duplication
Black on CD print
Printed inserts
Back panel traycard
FREE Barcode
FREE 11X17 Posters
FREE Internet catalog listing
JEWEL BOX
Assembled and **OVERWRAPPED!**
Graphic Layout INCLUDED!



100... \$299 500... \$960
300... \$799 1000... \$1290
Jewel case or Slimline Pack

Add a Top Spine Label to your CD!
Professional Look • Retail Barcode Included
• FREE with your "Ultimate Retail Pack"

ALTERNATIVE PACKAGES

Mini-jackets

100... \$279 500... \$749
300... \$499 1000... \$949
printed cardstock jackets



Media Packs

100... \$299 500... \$960
300... \$799 1000... \$1290
Standard DVD style cases w/inserts



Window Packs

100... \$99 500... \$459
300... \$279 1000... \$790
Window sleeve or C-Shell



Digi-wallets

500... \$1290
1000... \$1690
Cardstock with trayliners



UNCOMPROMISED QUALITY

WHAT MAKES US DIFFERENT?

- Silkscreen, Thermal, and Offset direct on CD print
- CD-r or Glassmaster available in any quantity
- Choice of quality print stock, offset, or digital print
- Free Posters, Gig sheets, and Internet Distribution
- Fast turnaround and available **SAME DAY SERVICE**
- NECD's Best Price Guarantee
- and...Our 110% customer satisfaction Guarantee

Most projects ready
in 3 DAYS!!!

Call Toll Free
888.673.2615

New England
Compact Disc

www.newenglandcd.com

David Bowie
Frank Zappa
Morphine
Susan Tedeschi
Rounder
Medeski Martin & Wood
Sophie B Hawkins
Burning Spear
Joan Jett
Rhonda Vincent
NRBQ
Bob Marley
Lucky 57
Tone Cool
Superhoney
Heartbeat
Bill Morrissey
Vance Gilbert
The Nields
Rykodisc
Wayfaring Strangers
Fastball
T House of the Almighty
Arlo Guthrie
Natalie MacMaster
Magic Dick & J Geils
Kate Taylor
Terry Kitchen
Paved Country
Entrain
WBCN
The Fringe
Harvey Reid
Toni Lynn Washington
Ed Gerhard
Jerry Beaudoin
The Coots
Ron Levy's Wild Kingdom
Johnny Hoy & the Bluefish

know these guys?

they know us!

northeastern
digital

Mastering for all Media

www.northeasterndigital.com

508-481-9322

TRUST THE MASTERING EXPERTS

offering complete



and



**authoring services
with internet weblinks**

2 Hidden Meadow Lane
Southborough MA 01772

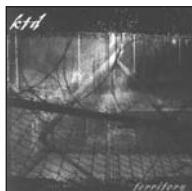
**15 Years of
Mastering
Great Music**

THE AMPLIFIER



KTD
Territory
ktdrocks.com

Deep. We've got lots of thought put into this dark rock music. I'm absolutely loving the guitars and the lyrics. Drummer's got a heavy groove, bass player's laying back, and the other two members play guitars, keys, sitar, synthesizer, percussion, and more. I'm loving the first song name of "Room To Breathe" but the second one "The Bed I Made" has some fantastic guitar playing, more deep chording and powerful lyrics and some vocal harmonies on the chorus. This is a really good band with a distinctive sound and great songs. Is it radio pop? No, it won't make that kind of dough for the labels. What it does have is integrity. Other titles: "Bleed," "Living In Sin," and "Shake The Cage." I'm a fan. Two thumbs up for the grooves, the licks, the surprises, and the lead vocalist(?)



- L.A. Deep

LIVING INWARD
Easter Parade
livinginward.com

That was one of my mother's favorite movies, "Easter Parade." The title cut doesn't have much to do with the happiness of that movie, in fact, I'll go so far as to say that the moody "Easter Parade" this quirky foursome has come up with has nothing to do with the movie, but it sure does have a pretty chorus. The playing and singing are clean and off the beaten path. In other words we've got some complexity of chord and melody beyond the three-chord chatter so many groups turn out. Nothing too heavy here, it's thoughtful stuff with some gentle playing and a couple of nice vocal harmonies sprinkled about. "Magazine" has some cool lyrics, but my fave is dead last on the CD and named "Forgot To Think." Happens to me all the time...

- L.A. Joe

ZOX
Take Me Home
zoxband.com

After listening to "Take Me Home" it is nearly impossible not to immediately think of Sublime. Like Sublime, Zox blend a variety of genres together and create fun modern rock. Zox is successful in blending ska, reggae, and rock but at times seem overly derivative of bands like Sublime and 311. Their main difference from these bands and Zox is the exquisite violin playing of Spencer Swain. On this album, Swain's violin is brought to the forefront and he excels in lifting the band from mediocrity. Without violin, Zox is not much



more than a Sublime cover band trying to play originals. But fortunately, such is not the case and the band uses violin as their driving force. This aspect of the band separates them from other ska-reggae rock bands and essentially makes them worth listening to. Throughout the album are fun, energetic reggae-toned rock tunes that don't disappoint. Highlights include the rollicking "Homebody," the album's standout track and a fervent rendition of Pachelbel's "Canon."

- Johnny Gaffney

PRODUCTION CLUB

Follow Your Bliss
lunchrecords.com

If you are a fan of recording artists like The Crystal Method, Fat Boy Slim, and The Chemical Brothers, you will want to check this one out. The brainchild of this release, Wally Gagel, has a career resume that spans more than a few great original acts as a producer, songwriter, and musician. This record features performances by Lou Barlow (Sebedoh), Tanya Donnelly (Belly/Breeders), Moses Leroy, Emm Gryner (David Bowie), Elain Atias (Wailers), and Hafdis Huld (Gus Gus). What would you expect from a project with this kind of lineup? Some potential confusion? Not so! It is chock-full of punchy, infectious grooves. The title track incarnates coolness under fire, percussive undercurrents coupled with soulful lines that are the trademark of this CD. The sonic landscape generated in "Rid of You" elevates to the higher ground of a distant mountain temple of the soul. The powerful groove and smoldering vocals luxuriating in "Devil's Kiss" generate the type of feel that's hard not to like, whether you dig this genre or not. The track "This is a New Generation" notches up the energy with the help of some needle precision sample work. The groovy down tempo of "Everything You Know Is Wrong" hooks you, then releases you, only to be caught again. This club swipes at the soul with cerebral production and great elemental grooves. Many of these tracks snap that thread, causing the ghost trapped in your flesh vessel to momentarily oscillate out onto the next plain...if you get my meaning.

- Space

DANNY CARNEY
Cattle Tragedies
www.ic-dc.com

Hi Danny. Thanks for the note and I'm pleased you were happy with the review I wrote of your last CD. Danny wrote all these songs. He also sings 'em and plays guitars, drums, bass, and keyboards. That would be everything by the way. Yup. He's a one-man rock band with some really decent songs. He even recorded and mixed a couple of the songs in his room. My compliments. It's not easy to do everything by your one-zees. I speak from experience. I don't hear a lot of breakout smash-hit songs here, but the stuff is well-played, well-written, and well-sung. I'm liking the acoustic guitar powered "Lady Grey"

and the Southwest-styled "Breaker Breaker" with its catchy chorus and hooked-up guitars. Other pop titles of note: "Crying Shame," "Cattle Tragedies," "OK One More," and "Brand New Ford Tempo." I give him two thumbs up.

- L.A. Joe

EARTH DEFENSE FORCE Sampler

Space hop. Yup, I just coined that appellation. We've got a couple fellers bragging about how cool they are a la hip-hop over sonic grooves and sci-fi FX. Lots of beeps and boops and swears and synths and rockets and krappie like dat. It's good to strike out in a new direction and try to come up with something within the genre, yet different enough to be unique. I'm just not feeling this. That said, my fave of the five is "Analog Galaxy," with its rapid-fire lyrics about everything but analog, and lots of futuristic sounds. (That would be the beeps and boops.) The grooves are O.K. and the rhymes are about the usual stuff for the most part; nothing new there except for the nasty NASA stuff.

- L.A. Goddard

NEPTUNE The Ballet of Process neptuneband.com

"Ballet of Process" indeed. Some of these vacky songs remind me of the koo koo band that plays the music at either end of "South Park" - the name escapes me - or, just ever so vaguely in its percussive complexity, some of the more experimental bits that King Crimson did a few years back. Somewhat organized cacophony (hey, that word almost has caca in it... sounds about right). And speaking of rights, I know this is artsy and edgy and it's their right to make this kind of krapple. But honestly, sometimes it sounds like you let a second grade class come into the studio and just bang on everything. Gosh, maybe that's harsh (on the second graders?). There is a semblance of rhythm and melody, it's just so twisted up that it's nearly unrecognizable. That said, "Mission To Mars" and "I'm Afraid of My Hands" were kind of fun to listen to. Send 'em back to Neptune.

- L.A. Wha?

FRITTER Mockery frittermusic.com

Man. What a sexy voice this girl has. She wrote and sang all of these easygoing pop-rock songs and she also plays keyboards and accordion. She's got about ten other musicians listed as playing guitars, drums, basses, percussion, and keyboards on various tracks, so I'm guessing it's more of a studio project than a band. Dunno. But man that's a sexy voice she's got there. (Did I mention that already?) Honestly, great voice, great pitch, and really nice songs. I'm loving the way she puts a rhyme together. The lyrics and meter of "Sohbet" are marvelous. (Marvelous?) Yup, she's gosh darned talented. "Mockery" has a cool groove and lots of little guitar bitz and blah blah... It's all about here and I'm a fan. Other titles: "Nor-



mixture of abilities under their sleeve. I have never heard an album like this before, and I'm sure that this is a first time for a band like this to come out of Boston. Each track on this album is completely different. The erratic lyrics have you questioning exactly what it is this band is trying to say to the public. One thing that is common with each song is the great thick sound behind it, whether it is backup vocals, the powerful drumming, or the out-of-the-ordinary use of a synthesizer. The upbeat music works well with the offered harmonies. Daisycutter is the next scene-stealing Boston band that will knock you off your chair.

- Jessi Morgan

MELODRAM

melodram.com

This trio has a huge history behind the release of their self-titled first album. After two years of being shelved, this album proves that Melodram is one of the area's best-kept secrets. There is so much diversity to this album, it is just amazing. The raw sound gives certain tracks an eccentric sound like no other. There is a great harmonization between the lead vocals and backup vocals. Melodram is able to deliver great, delicate-sounding tracks as well, such as "Air of Silence," which really demonstrates singer/guitarist Dave Mikutas choral talent. It is a really great track. A unique sounding EP indeed.

- Jessi Morgan



BLUE TREE

Reflections

bluetreemusic.com

Vocalist and acoustic guitarist Lawson Hancock and Blue Tree have created some avant-garde music with Reflections. Incorporating not just your standard musical instruments, Blue Tree employ banjos, e-bows, bongos, and whatever else sounds like it should be part of the track. Their music, while weighing heavily on the acoustic palette, lends a somewhat trippy feel akin to Pink Floyd. "Water Under The Bridge" opens "Reflections" and while it seems to have an uplifting chordal structure, Blue Tree manages to employ a hint of darkness to this track in their melodic ideas. "Gwen" would have been better off left on the studio shelves as it displays a sense of corniness with its lyric "Gwen, just say when." However, an enticing guitar solo from Mike Leavey does warrant the attraction of some attention to this track. "Reflections," an acoustic track all the way through, delivers quite a haunting melody for its hook an element that is the forte of this CD. Blue Tree really outdoes themselves with respect to the avant-garde element with the final track "The Voice (Echo)." Hearing only Hancock's voice accompanied by a distant and haunting soundscape, it seems as if he's delivering a singing sermon reflecting on all the imperfections of life and the world we live in. "The (Echo)" is a reprise back to "...Hope and Pray." Blue Tree's music is definitely not intolerable but we won't be hearing this on the radio next month either. However, if you're looking for something very unusual to listen to, "Reflections" is recommended.

- Karl Russo

HOLLOW

Merry-Go-Round

hollowfolk.com

Hollow? Hmm...a one word name that is certainly easy to remember but doesn't describe the folky, acoustic rock music that vox Amy Henderson and guitarist vox Simon Santiago have composed as it is full of melody, various influences and hook-laden choruses that make "Merry-Go-Round" something that you'll enjoy spinning in your CD player many-a-time. "Neighbor" an upbeat acoustic rock selection, begins the ride and possesses all of the above-mentioned qualities with the help of additional musicians that compliment these tunes throughout the disc. Hollow doesn't waste any time in displaying their softer side with "Crazy Love," where Henderson's highly skilled, sultry alto voice is well accompanied by some fortifying harmonies from Santiago. "Forget For A Minute" is another exhibition of the dark side of Hollow with a waltz feel that takes the listener right to the merry-go-round for a ride. "Afraid" stood out as the disc's most memorable ride as the entire song whether it's during the verse, bridge or chorus, employs catchy hooks. Some cool electric guitar work is heard on this track as well...a bit of a contrast as most of the disc relies heavily on the acoustic with the electric playing a background role. "Love Her," a dark ballad closes the disc and ends the ride on the "Merry-Go-Round." Many words can describe the quality material on this but one word that definitely comes to mind is eclectic.

- Karl Russo

THE AMERICAN GIRL CLUB

theamerican-girlsclub.com

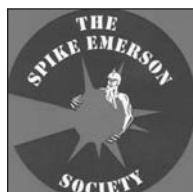
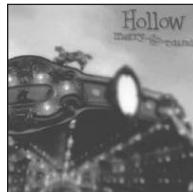
I'll be perfectly honest...I picked this CD solely based on the band's name. Two of the most important - yet often overlooked aspects of a band are their name - and their CD art. Those things say more than the music sometimes. Anyways...let's chat about the music. It's different- soft...kind of fuzzy...I feel out of focus - but in an artsy/introspective way. I dig the dueling vocals (think of a toned down Taking Back Sunday). My favorite tracks were "Rockstar" and "Sitting Here." These guys may fall into the "emo" category...but I think they are a lot different than the stuff currently donning that label...for one thing they can actually sing, not just whine. Check them out if you're in the mood for something different...!

- *Samantha*

THE SPIKE EMERSON SOCIETY

spikeemerson.com

Good 'ol rock and roll. It's a four-piece band: guitar/voice, bass, drums, and an E. Rossi who plays keyboards, guitar, and sings. Spike writes the songs and sings the lead vocals. Got a bit of a Smithereens feel to it. Remember them from the '80s? Anyway, I'm feeling that on commercial cut number three name of "Dress." The



next song, "I was a Daredevil 'Til I Broke My Jaw" has a good solid back beat and some pretty good lyrics. Having listened to most of the CD, I haven't heard that breakthrough, smash hit single that it usually takes to push a new band out of the womb, but they've got the right energy and intent. Other titles: "Riot Girls" with its simple '60s-like guitar hook, "God is Furious With Me," and "Kicking and Screaming." Pretty good stuff.

- L.A. Joe

PRESLEY
presleytheband.com

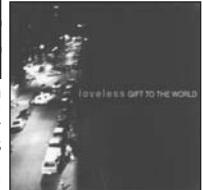
With a name like Presley I was half fearing they may be Elvis impersonators, but luckily they are a punk trio/jam band with some fabulous driving songs. "Vodka and OJ," "Jennifer Lopez," and "Sincerely Jack Daniels" are my three favorites. I love the fact that they have "epic" songs...some close to eight minutes in length....so many bands hit that three-minute mark and move on (regardless of whether or not the music is complete). They remind me of a funkier version of Sonic Youth - this is something I would have really dug a few years back. Aside from digging their '80s inspired indie rock I also have to comment on what cool guys they are - the first CD we received at "SoundCheck" wouldn't play in any of my CD players - they were nice enough to send me not one but two new discs - thanks guys! This is a keeper!



- *Samantha*

LOVELESS
Gift To The World
lyls.com

It's quite a feat in my book when a band can hit that spot in your soul that satisfies your rock craving as well as take your breath away. Simultaneous satisfying from Loveless for sure. When I can lavish a rave review on a band like Loveless, this validates my being in this crazy business all these years. Sometimes a band is SO good that there's hardly anything to say that won't come off as excessive gushing. They don't just write hooks - they define hooks. Lusciously fully, memorable rock tunes weave in and out of wispy, alluring tunes - all melodic, all with strong rhythmic grooves enhancing each tempoed song. I can't say enough about the entire album - from vocalists and guitarists Dave Wanamaker (on lead) and Jen Trynin (rhythm; I always loved her solo work too) - their combined lead and backing vocal work builds a beautiful wall of sound to the solid and inspiring rhythm section of Pete Armata on bass and Tom Polce on drums - all expertly pulled together by Mike Denneen of Q Division. I can't say anything negative about any of the tunes - in fact, I feel nearly all are more than radio-ready. They deserve the airplay and people everywhere should receive this "Gift To The World."



- Debbie Catalano

MARK FEMINO
The Light and The Dark
markfemino.com

With eyes that house a sincere but sultry look, Mark Femino's CD cover and press kit folder subtly beckons one to come inside.....Where was I? Sorry, had to fan myself there.... Well, Mark Femino's music lives up to the allure, layered with warm rhythms and an eclectic sound that smoothly blends elements of jazz, pop, funk, and world - not really commercial but of high quality performance-wise and recording-wise. He's got that same vibe and similar vocals of Sting (which I feel comfortable mentioning since that's in his bio as well). Between Mark's background, his array of impressive and talented musicians, and his songwriting, I'd say he's on the path to success in this genre.

- Debbie Catalano

YELLOW BRICK ED
yellowbricked.com

This is a great example of a band putting their best song first - the strong kick-off to Yellow Brick Ed's six-song EP, "When I Met Susie." This tune exemplifies the best elements of uptempo pop - hooks, melodies, and that inexplicable thing that stirs an emotion - in this case the juxtaposition of a smile for the feel-good music and the empathy for a lost love. I've spent a bit of space here on "When I Met Susie" as this was the most commercially viable song...ugh! Did I just say that! Well, kind of part of reviewing, I guess. Don't get me wrong, the remainder of the CD features equally well-played, performed, and melodic tunes, but they fall more into that Bare Naked Ladies, rhythmy, college music-vibed style - not really that Top 40 thing. Nothing wrong with that at all and obviously there's an audience for it. Vocals mixed nice and upfront, in fact everything is powerfully produced (by The Pushstars' Dan McLaughlin) - I was particularly taken with the sound of Track 5's "Eli" - intriguing and dynamic, it showcases the locked-in talents of the rhythm section - Dan Leary (bass) and Dave Tallarida (drums). Lead vocalist (who also plays acoustic guitars and keyboards), Tony Lechner and guitarist Brett Jenkins, round out the band. There's nothing I can say negative about the band's playing but I would have liked to hear more songs like "When I Met Susie."

- Debbie Catalano

BLUE COLLAR CONVICTS
603.305.9102



Before I even get into the music, I have to say I love the sentiment behind their name. The Blue Collar Convicts call themselves a "working man's band" who are "imprisoned by the walls of society...the system is [their] prison." With that, these guys must be releasing that pent-up frustration in the form of punk-tinged, urgent feeling rock and roll! Five tracks just rattle these cages with thumpingly quick and firm bass, gnawing, rough vocals, and guitar that one minute spits out punk, the next - driving rock, and even at the next moment holds down the twang. The adept bass playing of Keith Jerszyk

leaps right out and takes the lead, I'd say, in all the tracks (Keith is the lead vocalist also) - which suits the Blue Collar Convicts' style. My fave tracks, the "Don't Know Where To Begin," the surfer-billy instrumental "Shoreline Dreams," and the ultra cool rockin' billyish -with-a-travelin'-vibe "Dope Road." Release these men at once! - this is good stuff.

- Debbie Catalano

TERESA STORCH
Muscle Memory
teresastorch.com

The instrumentation that graces this EP serves as the perfect backdrop to Teresa Storch's folksy vocals and poetically open songs. A Nebraska to Boston transplant Teresa's style infuses contemporary singer/songwriter with traditional folk vibe. It's no wonder she's been recognized in her genre. Though I felt the depth of her lyrics and loved the landscape of her talented backing musicians, I did find a few lagging moments in this CD. But if low-key folk is your game, you'll no doubt appreciate Teresa Storch's subtlety. My favorites: "Muscle Morning" and the touching "Happy To Know You."

- Debbie Catalano

HARRIS
New Morning Pulse
urinine.com

Is there such a term as "eclectic indie"? Well, if not, here you go because that's the term that comes to my mind when listening to Harris's "New Morning Pulse." All over their bio (written distinctly I might add), one-sheet, and other reviews, they are called garage rock, emo, punk, or pop - maybe I'm missing something here but my opinion is they're too neat and clear to be punk or garage rock and too quirky to be pop. In fact, dare I say I hear jazz influences in their "emo" playing? Gasp! Well all this is a compliment actually. Harris are good players, confident in their uniqueness, and impassioned in their performing. If I were them, I'd just consider my new description of "eclectic indie" - it's got a ring to it, right?

- Debbie Catalano

BROKEN MADISON
brokenmadison.com

A mass of dark clouds slowly glides across the sky...the aura of an impending storm. If music were like a weather forecast, this is what Broken Madison would feel like. Deep, bottom-heavy rock music performed in an affecting, emotional manner. Three musicians: vocalist and rhythm guitarist Giovanni Amonte (what a gorgeous name!), lead guitarist and backing vocalist (who takes the lead on one track) Faneza Izabela (another beautiful name!), bassist Chris Foley, and drummer Mike Daillak (on the CD - now Kenny Grohowski is on drums) all meld their instrumentation so well - truly a case of four individually talented musicians gelling in one cohesive sound. This is not bright, up-tempo, cheery stuff here - so you know...it's moody, flowing, rainy day rock - but well done for this genre.

- Debbie Catalano



DIN
The High End
dinpage.home.comcast.net

Well I know Din means "a loud continued noise" but really I think the band is selling themselves short if that's what they think they are. After all, how can dreamy vocals such as those of co-lead vocalist and bassist Carlene Barous fronting alternative pop/rock songs or even the quirkier rockin' feel of the other lead vocalist and guitarist Glenn Steedman's songs be considered "noise." No way. Din blend both vibes into one resulting in a seven-song collection that I admit took more than one listen before I "got" their groove - but once I did, I found myself latching onto their harmonic modern pop sound. Alluring, while holding their own as rockers, I'd like to see what a live show holds (note to Bob Palumbo - yeah, yeah, I know I had a chance and JUST missed one of your best shows! Next time...!). Oh and this was produced by Sir David Minehan at Wooly Mammoth Studios - a credit that always makes me pick up a CD to review.

- Debbie Catalano

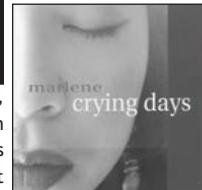
THE PREDICATES
Dissin' Treez
thepredicates.com

They mention their songs as being "fun and poppy with lots of energy." It's basically a duo, they both sing, she writes, he writes and plays guitar. I'm not sure who's playing drums and other stuff, but they do mention they're looking for a drummer and a bass player. Cool. So it's pretty decent material and they gig out at places like the Sky Bar and the Middle East. Both are young and nice-looking (well I guess the guy is, but I know the girl is easy on the eye). I'm liking song number four name of "Taco Bell" with its "Oh-oh-oh" chorus hook and zippy lyric phrasing. Other titles: "While You're Around," "All We Know," "Complacent" with its odd guitar chording and incessant, programmed hi-hat-like-type thing, and lastly, title cut "Dissin' Treez." Not bad.

- L.A. Joe

MARLENE
Crying Days
marlenemusic.net

Marlene writes 'em, sings 'em, and plays piano and keyboards on 'em; her songs, that is. It mentions she plays with her own jazz trio but as they dually mention, most of these songs are "pop/jazz and pop/R&B funkified up tunes..." I agree. We've got eight other folks listed as playing bass, drums, trumpet, cello, violin, and guitar. I'm particularly fond of the guitar player. He takes a couple of fine solos one of which is deliciously bluesy. Oh yeah, we've got a backing vocalist as well. "Fragile" is one of the jazzier like-type songs on the CD. Well-written, played, and sung it is (sounds like Yoda eh?). I'm also liking "The Game Show," "Natural Boy" with its bizarre intro and earthy, bare-bones arrangement. It's a nice



take on a jazz classic. Other titles: "Murder The Soul," "The Virtuous Ones," and the downright funky "Bus To Boston" sporting more of that fine guitar playing. I'm loving it.

- L.A. Joe

CONFUSATRON

Chewbacalypse Now
pageoferror.com

"Confusatron is a musical atrocity from Southern Maine that wants to invade your city. Many have attempted to describe their music and, upon trying, have imploded."



Yup. That's a direct quote from the enclosed info sheet. So if you heard a big bang a few weeks ago and this review didn't get finished, it was probably me imploding. (What a mess.) O.K. We've got some very complicated arrangements played by most of the usual instruments. Then we've got these soundscape blitz with dialog, sound FX, beeps and boops, weirdness panning back and forth and, uh, then we go back into some guitar and drum madness, but whoops... like a roller coaster taking a hard left, we pull a few G's and pluck off into parts unknown. Let's just say there won't be a lot of commercial airplay. I think song titles like "Turbo Face" and "Inspector Pecker" sort of say it all. (Guess I made it... oh no... boom. Splat.)

- L.A. Joe

CERBERUS SHOAL

Charming the Knoblessone

So what did you expect? Take a look at the name of the band and the title of the CD. Did you think these would be pretty little toonz? Pretty weird is what we've got. A new low with respect to weirdness; a veritable abyss. Now I've got to conjure appellatives and descriptives to describe this somewhat-controlled cacophony and dissonance. I'll try for another paragraph or two but it ain't gonna be pretty... oh that's right... pretty weird. This band wrote the book on bizarre: spaced-out Martian voices, dribs of spacescapes and drabs of non-organic burps of interest harmonically juxtaposed with the Ursa Major of minor chords ala Alpha Centauri. Does that all make sense to you? No? Well that's just perfect. Now put a tune to it and if it doesn't resemble one of these songs (!?) it may as well. I'll leave you with a song title: "Mrs. Shakespeare Torso." Oy vey.

- L.A. Joe

HOLIDAY RAIN

No Sound Like the Present
holidayrain.com

No Sound Like the Present indeed. These songs are straight off some el-krappo '60s record. Not that they're terrible songs no, not terrible. So there's that. I love the band name and honestly there are some fine Beatle-esque melodies on songs like "Permanent Fixture" but gosh, it really is sort of lo-fi sounding; I guess they must have wanted it to have that "live" immediacy. What the hell, maybe these are the songs Ringo wrote; sounds like him on drums. But man that's a nice CD cover the four of 'em picked out. Lovely colors. Toonz: "It's My Fault" with its John Lennon like-type lead vocal, "Hide and Seek," "No Tears In Your Eyes," "On With The Sunrise," and "I

Heard The Message" with its calming ride cymbal, simple chords, and pabulum lyrics. Honestly, it's got a nice mood to it, especially if you like "The Monkees."

- L.A. Joe

THE MERCURY SEED.

Dust
themercuryseed.com

Anyone who's out there and starting a band could use this band/press kit/CD as a great example of how NOT to do things. There are way too many delusions of grandeur, too much time with a thesaurus, too much \$ in the wrong places, and too much bad advice surrounding this band!

1. What's with the periods? A pretentious period after the band name AND the CD title? Not just there, but throughout the press kit they're referred to as "the Seed." with the period there EVERY TIME! moe. may be cool, but it ain't working for these guys.
2. The three-page band bio is an ungodly mess of adjectives and adverbs. This is the most painful thing I've had to read in quite some time. More nouns and verbs are needed—the meat and potatoes of language—because there's so much other gobbledegook that I can't follow their train of thought. Ouch! MORE IS NOT ALWAYS BETTER.
3. The music is totally flaccid compared to the buildup that their bio is giving them. Yeah, of course they're gonna talk a good game, but the second coming would be weak compared to the write-up in THIS press kit. A little exaggeration is fine; too much is not a good idea.
4. There's obviously a fast-talking manager with a recent music business degree from the local community college involved in this project. Enough said? Should've saved THAT money... My advice? Don't quit your day jobs, period, exclamation point!

- Smash

NO MEANS YES

The Cove of the Lonesome

I like the down-and-dirty home-made CDs that we get nowadays. The sound quality isn't what you'll hear on the radio, the "sounds" themselves aren't always great (i.e., really cheesy guitar sounds), and the packaging can be sketchy...but rock'n'roll isn't supposed to be this sanitary, conformist, corporate thing! I have the utmost respect for these DIY folks...That being said...this ain't half bad. These guys have the potential to really be something in the not-so-distant future! The music is breakneckingly thrashy with just the right amount of sloppy mess to make it fun. There are even a couple pretty little introspective instrumental breaks to really confuse the issue. Unfortunately, the thing that stands out the most is the fact that NMY is fine when they scream but couldn't actually sing their way out of a paper bag. Each time that they try to do something that resembles real singing or melody—it sucks, period. They should stick with talking and screaming (no rapping)! Even the back-up group vocals are horrid. I can't even justify this by calling it "punk"—it's simply bad. I just hope that NMY isn't at home



and doing the "Smash says our vocals suck. What does he know?" routine. Don't fool yourselves. YOU CAN'T SING! Remember "The Brady Bunch" episode when Peter's voice changed? You sound worse! Should I leave you a message on your answering machine?

- Smash

STEPH PEEKA
Seeking 7
ultrasoundproductions.com/seeking7

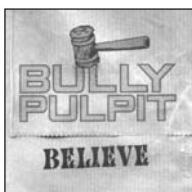
I guess there are two of them on this CD though there are three folks on the back cover of the CD. No worries. Steph plays all the guitars and bass, does all the singing, and wrote 'em all. Impressive, eh? Well I think so. It's surely rocky stuff and she's not a bad songwriter. The drummer lays down a solid groove and I'm liking the guitar bitz on songs like "Perfect Timing" with her angry harmonies and tough delivery. They're out gigging here and there according to the enclosed info sheet, might be a fun listen. Toon list: "Something Here" with its cool guitar lick, "See Love," "Eye of the Beholder" and sporting the best groove of the CD is "Sea Dream" down in slot number nine. Go get 'em.

- L.A. Joe

BULLY PULPIT
bullyband.com

Bully Pulpit is a four-member guitar-rock band with great melodies and delicious rough edges. My friends at Mad Oak Studios did a pretty good job of recording and mixing them as well. The lead vocalist has an appealing voice and the guitar bitz are cool and the drums are solid. It's got that pretty-pop ethic as pertains to its songwriting (bad sentence structure - I know I know). I could rant on about the bass sound and the sizzle on the hat but suffice to say, this CD meets the most important of criteria: good songs. So let's list a few of 'em: "I Can't" with its anthematic, big-chord guitars (a bit harsh), "Grateful," "Held You Last," "Starshowers" nice title that, and the uptempo "Snow" with its high-energy delivery and radio chorus. Well done.

- L.A. Joe



A WISH FOR FIRE
awishforfire.com

It's a three piece rock band with a trashy sounding CD; at least it's not harsh. Nope, it's a mellow recording, just not too clear. The songs aren't bad, they refer to their style as "romantic pop"; "... everything from blues to Motown and back to psychedelic rock." Sounds about right. They are moody songs and quite a few of them are rather on the slow side of things. Maybe that's the romantic thang, dunno. Guitars are smooth, drums are ambient, and the lead vocalist has an appealing voice. Though I know they're not, some of the songs sound the same; well let's say similar. Titles: "Keep Yourself Alive," "Crimes of Passion," "Cry Me A River," "Heart Beat Chest," and "Lay Down My Love." Not bad.

- L.A. Joe

MIKE HALLAL BAND
Chains of Being
mikehallal.com

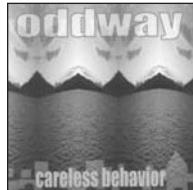
They've got a bluesy song name of "Red Sox Blues." That got this sextet some recognition and airplay. Matter of fact, it's a bluesy-sounding band period. The songwriting style, delivery, and harmonica keep the blooz flowing. They've also got four friends helping out on background vocals, congas, and slide guitar. Though I'm not hearing a smash, breakthrough hit song, the writing is pretty good. "Your Father's House," "Dirty Trick," and one or two others stray into the easy-listening rock category so you can't relegate them to blooz band status. I'm liking Mike's voice best on "Come w/ Your Power." It's also one of my favorites. The entire CD has a loose, homey feel to it. Titles: "Spoonful," "Get Up and Go," and "Got Love If You Want It." Sounds like a fun band to go and see live.

- L.A. Joe

ODDWAY
Careless Behavior
oddway.com

It's a '60s sounding band. They list four members and four friends who helped out but we've got five in the enclosed photo, no matter, it's a good band with decent songs. But man do they sound like a band o' the '60s. The lo-fi recording, the Hammond organ sounding keys (might be a real Hammond), and Petrina Foley's sloppy-sweet vocal style and delivery. Got some cool flanging on the lead vocal and some zippy wah-guitah on cut number three name of "Sometimes the Day." "Red In The Face" with its "Hey-ya" vocal intro and simple chords could have come directly off of some unknown band's record from 1967. (There I go with that '60s thang) Titles: "Too Bad For You" and "City In My Sea." Atmospheric.

- L.A. Joe



PARANOID SOCIAL CLUB
Axis II
paranoidmusic.com

Got three young fellers here writing songs, playing guitars and bass, drums, keyboards and singing and looking good in their chaise lounges. "Headphones" is one of those amusing songs with a theme other than cars, booze, and girls. The lead vocalist has a smooth and crunchy delivery on this one. Occasionally he reminds me of Steven Tyler, particularly on songs like "Soul Demolition." That can't be bad. We've got mostly R&R here though it's augmented there and about with samples and keyboard boops. I'm loving "She Gets Me High" with its infectious groove and humorous lyrics. Other titles: "Love Is Strange," "Save Me," "Evolution" with its killer groove, and lastly "Big Picture." I hear a lot of potential here. They've got style and a unique twist on things. I'm a fan.

- L.A. Joe



FREE! SOUNDBOARD LISTING

Please e-mail or send your classified ad (30 words max.)

SOUNDCHECK MAGAZINE

389 Main Street, Suite 301,
Malden, MA 02148
Fax: (781) 388-1817
info@soundcheckmag.net

- Bands Forming
- Bassist Available / Wanted
- Drummer Available / Wanted
- Guitarist Available / Wanted
- Keyboardist Available / Wanted
- Vocalist Available / Wanted
- Miscellaneous

attach paper

BAND FORMING

the roland, original rock project, seeks drummer, guitar/bass/vx. Check out the tunes: www.theroland.com, email: roland@theroland.com

vocalist, guitarist, and second guitarist seek bass and drummer for band.play a mix of rock/metal.ages 13-15.influences are Metallica, Godsmack, Nirvana and Evanescence. Call or email matt. (603) 579-0537 or Hyleanherolink@aol.com

Drummer and guitar envisioned. Into PJ Harvey, Fantomas, Television, Throwing Muses, Black Flag, Pere Ubu, Wire, 6 Finger Satellite, Ruins, At The Drive In. (508) 992-4952 Eric Baylies

BASSIST WANT/AVL

Bass Guitarist Wanted as a permanent member of Midnight Bandits, a Country Rock band also performing Classic Rock and Roll of the 70s, Southern Rock, with some traditional country, '50s/60s and pop tunes. Please be able and willing to perform in NH, VT, ME, Ma and CT on weekends, and able to practice once a week in Jaffrey, NH. Positive attitude and stage presence a plus. Immediate opening in gigging band. More details please email urbanexpressprod@aol.com or call (603) 532-8867

Nobodys Heroes needs new bass player. Inf Screeching Weasel, Ramones, The Queers, Misfits, Dickies, etc. Practice in Peabody, MA. Must be into PUNK. (781) 938-6642

Bassist available for working cover band. Bassist looking to form or join Blues, Classic Rock or Reggae cover band in the Lowell, MA / Southern, NH area. Call or email: (617) 688-1123 or friekman@hotmail.com. No modern rock (to much drop tuning slows down show)

Blue Sky Goodbye, Rock from the Midwest on Uprising Records, is on the search for a new full time bassist. There is a lot of touring and writing/ recording of the next record in the very near future. We are looking to schedule "tryout" time. So, if you are interested please email paul@blueskygoodbye.com. Mp3s are up at: www.purevolume.com/bluesky-goodbye and our music video for "Remember the Radio" is on our site and PunkRockVids.com

DRUMMER WANT/AVL

Professional touring drummer available currently touring with The Simmons Brothers. Well seasoned, versatile, perceptive player with solid meter and chops with over 20 years touring /road experience with no bad habits and a host of major artists credits with include Spiral Staircase Band, B.J.Thomas, Charlie Daniels, Jerry Reed, The Young Rascals, The Drifters, The Coasters, Joey Dee & The

Starlites and Mike Penera of Iron Butterfly to name a few. Currently seeking professional touring artist performing 150 plus shows per year. For further information please contact at email address mydrumbeat4you@aol.com or telephone (813) 973-2269 based in Central Florida area. Serious professional inquiries only please

Thrash metal project seeks drummer, Infl. Children of Bodom, Dimmu Borgir, Arch Enemy. Death/melodic hybrid. Dbl. bass skills, stamina, Boston area. Contact Meg darkstarfaerie2002@yahoo.com

Boston Area Alternative Rock band seeks female drummer (21 to 40) to complete lineup. Unique eclectic sound. Influences include: The Beatles, The Foo Fighters, Evanescence, Pat Benatar, No Doubt, and A Perfect Circle. Call or Email Jim (508) 579-3833, mattockhead@hotmail.com

GUITARIST WANT/AVL

Versatile, experienced guitar/vox available for \$ gigs and recording. Double on acoustic, mandolin, fiddle, harp, banjo and bass. Blues, country, Irish, bluegrass, rockabilly, Western Swing are specialties. pmharty@aol.com or (781) 942-1045

Exp., mature guitarist available. Blues and classic rock influenced, also acoustic singer/songwriter. Avail. for studio projects, originals, covers. Email and I will send a list of covers I am up to speed on. Pro recording and performing experience. Concord, NH. Email petesongs@comcast.net, (603) 228-9590

2nd guitar needed for guitar pop/punk band in CT. influences: The Replacements, Black Sabbath, the Cars, foo fighters. Rehears weekly and also play out. contact Bryan: bralex@cox.net

VOCALIST WANT/AVL

Male/Female singer wanted for serious original rock band. We rehearse in Tyngsboro, MA. Currently a four-piece. Please call Craig at: (978) 265-1932, or Terence: (978) 902-3026. E-Mail: Craig2381@comcast.net

Female Vocalist Wanted. Modern Rock Cover Band UNREAL seeks female vocalist for lead and back-ups. We have full PA and rehearsal space. Call or e-mail Rick for set list Rickmotleyone@cox.net. (401) 374-9687

Aerosmith tribute looking to fill Tyler position.Must have previous band exp.Must look proportionate,willing to dress up. Must have vocal ability.We are also searching for keyboards with backup vocal ability. Call Mack(860) 268-6465 or dave@bigteninch.com.

DUPLICATION / BLANK MEDIA

Superdups - New England's only CD duplication Superstore! In house CD duplication/replication services and supplies with the fastest turn time in the industry. Don't forget our best price guarantee. For unbeatable prices and service, visit www.superdups.com or call 800-617-3877.

Artist Development Associates - High-quality, low-cost duplication: CDs, CDRoms, DVD, Cassettes. From mastering to package design to finished product. Call toll-free 1 (888) RUBBER-8 www.artistdevelopment.com

The Tape Complex - Your music on CD in just 2 days. Direct on CD, printing available, Boston, MA (617) 437-9449

New England Compact Disc - offers the highest quality CD duplication at our guaranteed lowest cost. In house pre-press, printing, and silkscreening. Fastest industry turnaround including same day service. Call us toll free for a guaranteed quote 888-673-2615.

Wonderdrug Records - Our happy clients include Sam Black Church, Crash and Burn, Kicked In The Head, Powerman 5000. 24-48 Turnaround. Cheap rates call for more information. (617)262-9374 www.wonderdrugrecords.com

Accurate Bit Copy - Get the service you deserve! Accurate Bit Copy can handle all of your media needs. CD-ROMs, CD-Rs, DVDs, Videos, Printing, Packaging, Graphic Design, Warehousing and World Wide Product Distribution. Call for a free quote (800) 696-0500. Remember when it has to be right it has to be Accurate.

MASTERING

Northeastern Digital Recording - Mastering - Get it Right - Get it Done by the Pros Northeastern Digital Recording, Inc. - 15 years experience - over 4,000 CD projects. David Bowie, Burning Spear, J. Geils, Arlo Guthrie, Susan Tedeschi, Frank Zappa, Rykodisc, Rounder. Also CD-ROM, Enhanced CD, DVD, replication services. Toby Mountain Tel. (508) 481-9322, www.northeasterndigital.com.com

Specialized Mastering - Take one of New England's finest mastering suites; add discerning ears, amazing gear, great indie rates, and you end up with MAGIC. Low-cost packages available. Mail-in jobs welcome. Let us make the difference! Visit www.specializedmastering.com or call (508) 872-9478.

Peerless Mastering - Come here why our clients have the best-sounding records. Some recent clients include: Avoid One Thing, Dropkick Murphys, Thalia Zedek, Lost City Angels. (617) 527-220 www.peerlessmastering.com

INSTRUMENTS RETAIL / RENTALS

Adams Pro Audio - Check out website for complete list of gear. AdamsProAudioRental.Com or call (617) 773-8385.

Matt's Music Center - Exceptional tone, exceptional service. Mesa Boogie, the spirit of art and technology. Rte. 18, Weymouth. Call (781) 829-0111

Priority Music - We specialize in consignments and buying/selling used gear. Located on Rt.27, Hanson, MA. Give us a call at (781)293-8378/www.prioritymusiccomplex.com

Daddy's Junky Music Stores - Serving the music community for over 30 years. www.daddys.com

George L's - Cables, Strings and Pickups. The number one phone-in quote "It sounds like some took a blanket off my amp." No Stripping, No Soldering, (615) 868-6976 www.georgels.com

PROMOTION

Catalano Public Relations - Consulting, press kits, press releases, bios, writing services, etc. Call Debbie at (781) 438-4640; e-mail: CatalanoPR@aol.com or visit www.catalanopr.com.

Artist Development Associates - www.artistdevelopment.com High-quality, low-cost promotional services: Press, radio, and retail nationally and locally. We specialize in flat-rate tour promotion. Call: 1 (888) RUBBER-8.

PRODUCTION

Professional Artist Productions that gets you noticed! Get top quality and great results, all within your budget! Solo artists in pop, rock, folk and alternative know Blink Music as Boston's premier artist development, featuring both top talent and Boston's most advanced ProTools facility. Blink features a brand new 8 foot concert grand, unlimited sounds, and top of the line studio gear. Our engineers are world class. We work with top studio musicians and big names, we also offer access to some of Boston's best, yet inexpensive arrangers, programmers and players. Call us for a tour or to discuss the state of your project. We work closely with a whole team of people to be able to handle complete projects including DVD, DVD audio, portfolios, introductions to labels etc. Please email jamie@blinkmusic.com or call us at 617-225-0044. For more info please visit blinkmusic.com.

Sonic Enhancement Specialists Ltd. - Do you need sonic enhancement? live, sound, studio. Production consultation. Call Joel Simches 888-948-0341

Sound Better - Music producer Jordan Tishler is looking for a few special acts. Are you the next big thing? Let's find out. Accepting submissions in rock, alternative, punk, folk, and country. Call Digital Bear Entertainment (617) 522-4550 or mail PO Box 1142 Boston, MA 02130

RECORDING STUDIOS

Blink Music Inc. - Top recording quality, a friendly atmosphere and great results, all within your budget! For production work please see our description under "Production". Blink Music is one of Boston's fastest growing recording, mix and mastering facilities. Blink features speed, highest quality and superior results through better trained engineers, assistants and best of class technology, thus saving you time and money. Our clients value our personal commitment to getting the best possible results in the available time. Our piano, sonic options and Pro Tools systems are unmatched in the NorthEast, our monitoring and mix system more accurate than that of even bigger mastering facilities. Our brand new concert Grand Piano is our finest addition to date, exciting pianists from NEC and Berklee equally, including many concert pianists and faculty members. For more info please email jamie@blinkmusic.com or call us at 617-225-0044 or visit our website at blinkmusic.com.

Powerhouse Studios - has an excellent vibe and a world-class sound in a large relaxed setting. Extensive selection of cutting edge & vintage mics, mic pres and outboard gear, 48-channel Soundcraft ghost automated board, five rooms, vintage amps, and drums plus in-house studio drummer. Independent engineers and producers welcome. Call Stuart at (978) 582-3339 for info, brochure, tours and bookings.

Oak Grove Recording - Professional production for your CD or demo. Songwriters without a band are my specialty. We also have a huge room and iso booths for bands. Label work includes CBS, Sony, MCA, and JVC. 16-track one inch, 24-track two-inch and digital recording. Ask about our one-on-one recording and production courses. Call (781) 321-3069

**Sound Museum
REHEARSAL COMPLEX**



WE WILL BEAT ANY PRICE IN MASS!

BOSTON ALLSTON
617-423-4959

PLAY WHERE THE PRO'S PLAY

B.B. King, Bowie, The Bentmen and many more...

VOCAL COACHING



**STAGE PRESENCE * CONFIDENCE
POWER * RANGE * CONTROL**

Jeannie Deva® Voice Studios

*The Deva Method® - A Non-Classical/
Approach for Singers™*

295 Huntington Ave - Boston

(617) 536-4553

www.DevaStudiosBoston.com

Ask About our Private Lessons & Workshops!

Copyright 2003. All Rights Reserved. Studio independently owned and operated by instructors certified in the Deva Method. Jeannie Deva and The Deva Method are trademarks of Jeannie Deva Enterprises, Inc.

AIMEE MANN • DAR WILLIAMS • PATTY GRIFFIN • CAST OF FAME •
CAST OF JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR

My Generation Studios - 2" 24-track analog recording studio. (978) 644-1212

Saucer Sound - Complete 24-Track digital audio recording facility using Tascam DA-88s, also featuring Pro Tools 5.1 and Digital Performer 3.0 with complete MIDI. (508) 285-SONG

Mixed Emotions Music - Experience Pro Tools HD3 w/ Pro Control / analog 2inch in a relaxed environment with highly skilled engineers, great microphones, and outstanding outboard including Neve, Pultec, Summit, TC Electronics and more. (978) 774-7413 www.MixedEmotionsMusic.com

7A West - features 24-tracks of 20-bit digital recording. 96 input, fully automated Mackie Digital board, Dynaudio Acoustics monitors, Lexicon, Neve, Empirical labs, Neumann, 6'4" grand piano and more! Visit www.7awest.com or call (781) 356-7536

REHEARSAL COMPLEXES

Billerica Backstage - Clean Modern Secure Rooms, Soundproof, Air Conditioned, Heated, 24 Hours Access, State Of The Art Surveillance Cameras. Two great locations call and reserve your room now (978) 667-8472

Sound Museum Rehearsal Complex - New band rooms in Allston available now. Check out our other great locations in Boston and Brighton. Reserve your space now. Call (617) 423-4959

The Rock Block - Offering brand new rehearsal studios of all sizes with complete soundproofing. Loading dock and freight elevator available. Security guard and closed circuit surveillance system on premises. Located just minutes from MBTA commuter rail. The Rock Block includes locations in Braintree, Hingham, and now Brockton MA. Call now to re-

serve space. Availability is limited (617) 786-7458

Priority Music Complex - Many rooms, all sizes. CC surveillance system and security guards. Rent by the week or month. Daily rentals available, including our music hall, for \$50 for the day. Discounts at on-site music store and 48-track recording studio. Located on rt.27, Hanson, MA, 1/2 south of Boston. Across the street from the Hanson MBTA station. Call for a tour or to reserve a room @ (781) 293-8378/www.prioritymusiccomplex.com

SOUND SYSTEMS

Fastlane Productions - Quality Sound and Lighting. Sales. Service, Rentals, DJ Equipment, PA Systems. Clubs, Bars, Theatres, Restaurants. Call: (781) 229-8399 or visit our website: www.fastlaneproductions.net

Elm Street Productions - P.A. Rental / Engineering / Installation Live DAT Recording. The only serious choice. Over 20 yrs experience. Contact: Ed McGee (508) 224-5193



**WMFO's
HEAD
BANGERS
BALL**

TUESDAYS 12-3PM
91.5FM
WWW.WMFO.ORG

HOSTED BY
STEPHANIE

THE ROCK BLOCK
REHEARSAL STUDIOS

LOCATED IN HINGHAM AND BRAINTREE
AND NOW BROCKTON, MA

SPECIAL INTRODUCTORY RATES STARTING AT \$250 PER MONTH W/ HEAT!

SOUTH SHORE'S FINEST STUDIOS

SECURE BAND AND DRUM ROOMS OF ALL SIZES
WITH COMPLETE SOUND PROOFING

SECURITY GUARD ON PREMISES WITH SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM

LOADING DOCK AND FREIGHT ELEVATOR AVAILABLE

THREE GREAT LOCATIONS WITH OFF STREET PARKING

ACCESSIBLE BY MBTA

CALL NOW TO RESERVE YOUR ROOM! (617) 786-7458

Billerica & BackStage I, II

(978) 667-8472

Rehearsal Studios

Clean Modern Secure Rooms, Soundproof, Air Conditioned, Heated, 24 Hours Access, State Of The Art Surveillance Cameras

CALL AND RESERVE YOUR ROOM NOW !!!

Guitar Lessons
Boston Fort Point

With
Tony Savarino

Styles taught:
Rock
Punk
Blues
Country
Metal (yes shred too!)
Roots/Americana
Surf
Jazz
Folk

Learn:
Right and left hand techniques,
Improvisation
Harmony theory, ear training
Fretboard mechanics

Guitar For:
Cage The Elephant,金沙, Kelly Riley, John Cremona, and many more
20+ years of teaching and playing experience
Berklee Alumni
Has appeared in:
Boston Sound Check, The Noise, The Boston Phoenix, The Boston Globe, GUITAR, GUITAR Player
For the Practicing Musician

Rates: \$30/1 hour, \$25/1/2 hour, Block rates available
phone: 781.354.0929 e-mail: tysav@rcn.com

Quality Sound & Lighting
For Professionals By Professionals

**FASTLANE
PRODUCTIONS**

Sales *DJ Equipment*
Service *Pa Systems*
Rentals *Lighting*
Installations

Clubs, Bars, Theaters, Restaurants, Concerts, Festivals, Corporate events

CALL NOW! 781-229-8399
www.FastlaneProductions.net

www.powerhousestudio.com



Powerhouse studio



(978) 582-3339

**"Track like the past,
Mix for the future!
The Analog/Digital
connection is here."**

EXPERIENCE THE AMAZING RADAR 24
W/NYQUIST CONVERTERS
SONY DMX-R100 AUTOMATED
MIXING STEREO TO 5.1
DIGITAL PERFORMER 3.2
PROTOOLS/LOGIC/WAVE/ETC
MASSIVE MIC COLLECTION
LOW DAY RATES
GREAT DRUM ROOMS, 7 IN-HOUSE SETS
OVERNIGHT ACCOMMODATIONS

BLINK

SONIC EXCELLENCE

Production Recording Mixing Mastering

+ New 8 ft Grand Piano!



Grammy Winner Craig Krampf with
artist Brandon Arzillo at Blink Music

NEW CLIENT SPECIALS

(617) 225-004
www.blinkmusic.com

info@blinkmusic.com

"..EXCELLENT space and choices!"
- CHRIS FOGEL / Alanis Morissette

MORE MIXING POWER THAN MIAMI OR NYC

PRO TOOLS | **HD**

"Intense. A documentary about the hardcore punk scene by the people who wrote its history"
- Al Barr (Dropkick Murphys)

"Vicious and brutally honest. One of the hardest hitting videos I've ever seen."
- Jaime (Hatebreed)

"Dark, defiant and driven. American subculture at its finest."
- Steven Blush (author of American Hardcore: A Tribal History)

"A disturbing brutal look into a world where if you don't belong, you'd better stay the fuck out."
- Jamie Sciarappa (SSD)

"Certainly brutal and intense."
- Gregory James Rhem (HBO Films)

"Earning respect never hurt this much."
- Ryan Owens (WHDH-TV, NBC)

Boston Beatdown

"See the world through our eyes"

Volume II

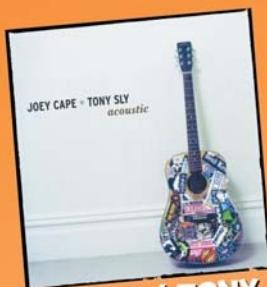


From the first punch to the last chord, Volume II delivers a non-stop, in your face, visual and auditory glimpse into the dark and violent world of underground hardcore and punk rock. From the attack by hardcore kids on singer Moby to the sewing up of stab wounds on a living room couch, no other hardcore documentary has ever been so honest and real.

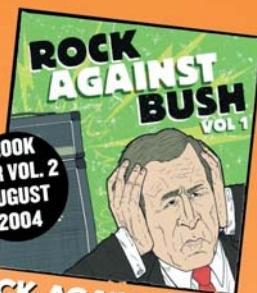


BLOOD FOR BLOOD, DEATH BEFORE DISHONOR, RIGHTEOUS JAMS, SOME KIND OF HATE, IN MY EYES, TEN YARD FIGHT, COLIN OF ARABIA, 454 BIG BLOCK, RAMALLAH, WRECKING CREW FEATURING NEVER BEFORE SEEN LIVE FOOTAGE AND INTERVIEWS OF THE BEST BOSTON HARDCORE ARTISTS AND FOUNDING MEMBERS OF BOSTON'S NOTORIOUS FSU GANG

Ask for Boston Beatdown "See The World Through Our Eyes" Volume 2 at your local music and video stores or order securely online at www.crosscheckrecords.com or www.bostonbeatdown.com

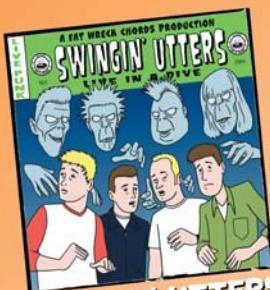


JOEY CAPE / TONY SLY
"ACOUSTIC"
OUT NOW ON CD/LP

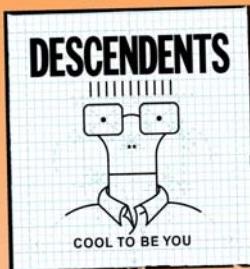


LOOK
FOR VOL. 2
AUGUST
2004

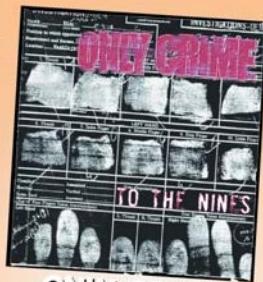
ROCK AGAINST BUSH
"VOLUME 1"
OUT NOW ON CD



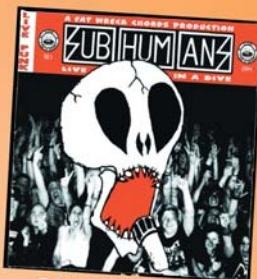
SWINGIN' UTTERS
"LIVE IN A DIVE"
OUT NOW ON CD/2LP



DESCENDENTS
"COOL TO BE YOU"
OUT NOW ON CD/LP



ONLY CRIME
"TO THE NINES"
OUT NOW ON CD/LP



SUBHUMANS
"LIVE IN A DIVE"
OUT NOW ON CD/LP

I SUDDENLY
HAVE THIS STRONG
URGE TO GET ALL
THE NEW FAT
STUFF!

MAYBE IT HAS
SOMETHING TO DO WITH
ALL THOSE FLOATING
RECORDS.



CD DUPLICATION PACKAGES

THE
BIOPACK™



**100 - \$299.00
200 - \$590.00**

200 package includes FREE
CD face upgrade to 2-color silkscreen!

These Packages
Ready in 3 days!

Need that special package to make your release stand out?
The Superdups bioPack™ is perfect for shopping your release
to labels, promoters, or even as a "special edition" fan package.
Visit www.superdups.com for more info.

THE RETAIL SHOPPER
with free barcode & spine labels!



200 CDs \$590.00

Includes 200 CDs with two color silkscreen CD face, full color cover (both sides) and full color tray card. Assembled in high quality jewel boxes with professional overwrap. Includes graphic layout. Free Barcode · Free spine labels!

Spine Labels Make your CD look Pro!

And they're free with most
Superdups CD Packages!

SUMO – entropy

012345678905



Best Price!

Always guaranteed at Superdups.

300 CDs \$790.00

Complete color package

From your supplied CDR master. Includes 300 CD copies w/black type on face and full color insert and tray card. Assembled in high quality jewel boxes and shrink wrapped. Includes art layout.

FREE - Barcode · Spine labels · 100 posters!

1,000 CDs only \$1190.00

Ready in 7 days!

300 - \$490.00

500 - \$690.00

CDs in color Jackets Ready in 7 days!

Includes CDs in full color sleeves with 1 color silkscreen CD face. Great for radio promotion and promos.
1,000 w/2 color CD face - **\$960.00** Ready in 12 days!

We're only 30 minutes north of Boston in Salem, NH.

*Need CDs Fast? Most complete packages ready in 3-5 days.
Most 1,000 piece packages ready in 9 days.*

800-617-3877

WWW.SUPERDUPS.COM

Call Today For Unbeatable Prices, Quality & Service

Superdups®